

THE CULTIVATOR.

NEW

"TO IMPROVE THE SOIL AND THE MIND."

SERIES.

VOL. II.

ALBANY, SEPTEMBER, 1845.

No. 9.

THE CULTIVATOR

Is published on the first of each month, at Albany, N. Y., by
LUTHER TUCKER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

SEVEN copies for \$5—FIFTEEN copies for \$10.00—all payments to be made in advance, and free of postage. ☐ All subscriptions to commence with the volume.

OFFICE IN NEW-YORK CITY, AT

M. H. NEWMAN'S BOOKSTORE, No. 199 BROADWAY, where single numbers, or complete sets of the back volumes, can always be obtained.

☐ "The Cultivator" is subject to newspaper postage only.

Foreign Correspondence.

MR. NORTON'S LETTERS—No. XV.

Laboratory of Ag. Chem. Association, }
Edinburgh, July 15, 1845. }

L. TUCKER, Esq.—During the last month, my changes of habitation were so frequent, in the course of various journeys through the eastern part of England, that I did not find time to write you. My object in visiting England was to attend the annual meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, held this year at Cambridge. At the close of this meeting, Prof. Johnston and myself determined to take a short agricultural tour through Norfolk and Lincoln. We were so fortunate as to meet with companions well acquainted with every branch of farming as practiced in that section. Mr. Breckenridge, one of these gentlemen, is an agent for extensive estates in Yorkshire and Northumberland, and the other, Mr. Johnson, a Yorkshire farmer, who has lately won the prize for the best farm in that county.

We found posting the most convenient way of traveling, as we could then stop when and where we pleased, or turn off from the main road in any direction.

From Cambridge to Newmarket was our first stage. The road is nearly the whole distance upon a low ridge, elevated above the fenny hollows. The soil near the road seemed thin and light, and many fields, in the failure of grass, were overrun with weeds. The soil of the fens is much better, but there is a difficulty in draining, as some of them are nearly on a level with the sea. I am inclined to think, however, that this is not insuperable, and am sure that the higher levels can be perfectly drained. The water from each level is carried round the edge of that below it.

Some miles before reaching Newmarket, we passed from the oolite limestone formation to the chalk, and after leaving that place, we found in a field where they were plowing, the chalk about 6 inches from the surface. The furrow was four inches in depth. The plow was of a very antiquated construction, having but one handle and a wooden mold-board. Much of the farming upon these thin chalk soils is very bad; they are afraid to go down, and keep on skimming the five or six inches of surface soil year after year, without any attempt to deepen it. Their name for barn-yard manure is muck, and they never put it upon this light land. The rotation upon one of these farms was thus given us. It was near Thetford,

on the borders of Suffolk. 1, turneps; 2, rye; 3, 4, and 5, any grass that will grow. This completes the rotation; and then come turneps again. No muck is applied, but occasionally a dressing of marl. I do not give this as a type of Suffolk farming, but as showing what may easily and frequently be found there. On the better farms we noticed many fine fields of trefoil and sainfoin, they growing more readily and stronger than clover.

We now entered Norfolk, and kept almost directly north to Walton, passing through some wretched farms. Here we saw the Norfolk plow, a very singular implement, having a pair of wheels three or four feet in diameter, with the plow beam rising above their axle, and fastened in a kind of rack by a chain. It looks very awkward, and I should not think that it had much power.

From Walton to Deerham, we noticed a very decided improvement, especially in the wheat and grasses. The sheep from Newmarket to Walton were almost starving in the pastures. The dry weather of last summer was fatal to immense quantities of the seeds, sown for mowing and pastures. About Deerham the country became rich and beautiful; the village itself is one of the prettiest I have seen in this country.

A few miles on our way to Fakenham, we stopped to visit the farm of Mr. Hastings, where we again found a rather light soil on the largest part of his farm. Some of his land however is clay, and this he has drained in a way which is called herring-bone draining. Deep main drains run down the slope, and short drains slanting across the fields enter into them on each side, like the small bones of a fish into its back bone, whence the name. This method has not proved effective, either here or on several other farms where we found it in use; wet spots are left, and the ground not dried so quickly as it ought to be. We astonished Mr. Hastings by saying, that much of his light land also required draining. "Why," said he, "it is too dry already." Our reasons were these: he plows from 4 to 5 inches deep, and under that, in some fields, is a hard, concrete mass of sand cemented by iron; no root can enter it, and when the roots of the grain reach it, the plant suddenly stops growing, and a crop which promises at first to yield 30 bushels of wheat per acre falls off to 20. Now, drains put into this land, would not be to carry off water, but to purify the subsoil, from which, broken up by the subsoil plow, the rains would gradually wash down into the drains the iron, leaving a wholesome soil for the roots to descend into; being thus able to go down, they would also better resist drouth; this assumption experience has amply confirmed in Scotland, within the last two years. Before leaving Mr. Hastings, it is due to him to say that his farm is well worked, his implements are excellent, and his manuring very liberal. He clays his light soils quite heavily. Since taking the farm he has laid at least 200 cubic yards per acre, over many fields.

From this place we proceeded to Fakenham; and thence to Holkham, for the night. Holkham Hall is a magnificent place of the Earl of Leicester's, and the home farm of about 1200 acres, has been quite celebrated in former years. At present there is nothing worthy of much note in the cultivation. The implement sheds contained a greater display than I have ever before seen on one farm.

Eight miles from Holkham, we called on Mr. Blythe, at Sussex Farm, named after himself by the Duke of Sussex, as a token of his approbation. Heavy rain prevented us from visiting many fields here, but we were delighted by what we saw, as well as by the frank, courteous demeanor and practical wisdom of Mr. Blythe.

He has about 700 acres, chiefly a light shallow soil, resting on the chalk. His wheat crop is from 24 to 38 bushels per acre, about the average that we found throughout the country, on the best farms. He top dresses his wheat with nitrate of soda. Bones also he uses very largely, and now dissolves them all by sulphuric acid; indeed, we met with evidence as to the good effects of this mixture on all sides. Twelve lbs. of acid per bushel seems a good quantity to apply; but it must in all cases be previously diluted with once or twice its bulk of water. An excellent way of applying it, is to place the bones in a conical heap on a bed of ashes, and slowly pour on the diluted acid. They will absorb nearly the whole; the outside bones should then be turned inside, and the whole will in a short time become soft and fit to mix with ashes for drilling or sowing.

We were compelled to hurry away from Mr. Blythe, in order to accomplish a visit to Mr. Overman, at Weasenham, distant about 12 miles. Here we found another excellent practical man. He has a fine dairy of about 30 pure Ayrshires, for the butter of which he realizes from £200 to £250 per annum, or from \$950 to \$1200. His old grass lands were the best we had seen, and were not managed on the impoverishing system too common in Norfolk, of grazing by day, and folding at night on the fallow fields. He also clays his light land heavily, and what is unusual in that quarter, uses the subsoil plow. It was so nearly dark when we left him that we saw but little of the country between his place and Lynn, where we stopped for the night.

JOHN P. NORTON.

NOTES OF TRAVEL IN IRELAND.—RURAL AND AGRICULTURAL—No. I.

Dublin, February, 1845.

MY DEAR FRIEND—I risk nothing when I say that the notes of my sojourn in his island, that gave birth to my excellent and revered parents, and that has almost claimed me too as a native, will not only interest you deeply, but assist and instruct you in your present pursuits as a farmer.

First impressions they say are very lasting; if my first impressions are to continue, and there is any truth in the saying of "laugh and grow fat," you may expect to see my dimensions considerably increased by the time I return, for my sides ache with continued laughter since my landing. Porters, jaunting-car boys, waiters, and even the beggars, are constantly cracking their jokes at either your expense or their own. There is a natural wit and drollery about them, that is constantly oozing out at some point or other. I shall not attempt to describe to you the beauty of this city, or of its indescribably beautiful bay and surrounding scenery, but refer you to the various published accounts of them, which you may read with as excited an imagination of their beauties as you please, without the least fear of exaggerating the reality; words cannot, canvass alone may, convey some idea of the magnificence of the bay of Dublin and the surrounding country, gently rising in terraces from the shore to the Wicklow hills and mountains in the back ground, and thickly studded with the villas and country residences of the Dublin merchants and gentry.

Having often heard my father speak of Billy Murphy, the cattle salesmaster of Smithfield, I was anxious to see his old stand, (the space occupied by the stock sold by any particular salesman, is called his stand,) and the market, if not the man himself. On going to bed I ordered the porter to call me at half-past 6, A. M., and to have a jaunting-car at the door at 7 precisely, which was obeyed to the moment; and off I set on this most extraordinary but convenient and agreeable conveyance, (that I shall take another opportunity to describe,) back to back with my driver, who quickly discovered I was a stranger, and who with the inquisitiveness of a yankee,

but with great and deferential politeness, soon pumped out of me the country from whence I came; it would be difficult to describe to you the pleasure he evinced on finding I was from America; the numerous questions he successively put to me about certain places where relatives and friends of his own were settled, and the earnestness with which he respectfully insisted on waiting on me with his vehicle during my stay in the city, which I consented to, and certainly I was afterwards not sorry for it, for he proved to be a most intelligent fellow, intimately acquainted with every locality in and around the city, as well as with the persons and character of every man of any note whatever, which he took great pains in pointing out to me as we went along, and much pleasure in always accompanying his remarks with some detail of the history of the man, either good or bad, as his acts might have deserved through life. He was of great service to me, for I gained more information through him in one week, of persons, places, and things generally, than I could have done in two months, without his invaluable aid. Neither was this an isolated instance of the integrity and intelligence to be met with amongst this class of men. I was told, and believe it, that as a body, they are strictly honest, truly intelligent, full of fun and good humor, and temperate to a man. Arrived at Queen-street, which is nearly at the western extremity of the city, I soon discovered I was at the market, and alighted from my jaunting-car. The sight that here presented itself, truly astonished me. At this end, extending the length of two of our squares, is the pig market, (you hardly can hear the word hog used here,) all put into pens in separate lots, which pens are movable, and laid by when market is over, leaving the street quite unimpeded after. A fairer specimen of fat hogs I never saw; even in size, not averaging over 200 lbs., in shape equal to the best Berkshires, all milk white, with blooming red skins, it is remarkable that out of several thousands there were not certainly 10 black hogs in the pens. Strange as it may seem to you, I find that they are here only in the commencement of their pork-packing, the first of the season commencing with the New-Year. All these hogs are brought up to market by jobbers or dealers, who make a business of buying them up in the country markets, in ones and twos, from the persons who fatten and raise them, for I am given to understand, that it would be difficult to find more than two or at most three hogs fattened by any one person, and all fed exclusively on cooked potatoes, the refuse of the poor man's table, from the time they are pigged. When you recollect that Ireland supplies England and her navy with all her salted provisions, besides fully one half, I am told, of her fresh meat, the fact here stated, of how these hogs are supplied, will give you some faint idea of the extent and importance of the potatoe crop in this country, as well as the immense number of humbler cottagers and householders. When we recollect too, the quality and character of Irish lard and pork in every part of the world that it has ever reached, what becomes of the theory and assertions of all those who have so boldly stated that potatoes possess no fattening qualities, and that good meat could never be made from them? Passing through the pig market, you get into a street fully five squares long, and about 300 feet wide; the center of which, say 100 feet wide the whole way through, is occupied by sheep, which from their likeness to each other, you would suppose belonged to one man, all without exception, of the long wooled Leicester or Bakewell breed, weighing I was told on an average, (the wethers) from 30 to 35 lbs. a quarter, nett. Each lot was neatly and clearly branded with the initials of the owner, and the ewes marked with a small star or dot of tar over the tails, so that the butchers could at once distinguish them as they passed along; I find that wether mutton is fully one penny or two cents per pound greater value than ewe mutton, and that the latter is generally withheld altogether from market during the two fall months, October and November, it being the rutting season. The sexes even belonging to the same man are in separate pens. I can hardly estimate the number in market, but from 5,000 to 8,000 at least. On either side of the sheep pens, were thickly ranged the cattle, right over the side walks

up to the very windows, all of which, on a level with the street, have iron bars, and outside half-shuts, to prevent their being broken in by the cattle. Easily distinguishable from amongst the many persons around, are the shepherds and their trusty dogs, who have brought up the stock from various parts of the country; all, a stout, healthy, well looking set of men, with their frieze (the poor man's home-made cloth,) great coats and large capes, but singularly enough differing in color, according to the province they come from; but the Leinster light grey color preponderating in number by far, as from this province, particularly in the spring of the year, I am informed, that Smithfield receives its chief supply of fat stock; however, I was occasionally pointed to the dark-brown frieze from the far west, (Connaught,) and was surprised to find that few of the shepherds from there, speak any other language than the Irish; they are truly a primitive but most intelligent race of people, and their shepherd dogs little less so than themselves. I never saw finer or fatter cattle in my life, and by far the greater number, and those the fattest and most sought after, were, I was informed, fattened *exclusively* on grass, having had but a little hay given to them since the hard weather commenced about Christmas. I was here again astonished at the great disparity in numbers between heifers and bullocks; there were certainly ten heifers for the one bullock in the market, accounted for to me, by the fact, that heifers were so much more easily fattened than bullocks; the calculation is, that you can fatten five heifers for four bullocks, and that the heifer beef is much superior and of more value. Of the prices they brought, you could form no right estimate without seeing the animals, but you may guess as you please when I tell you, I saw many heifers driven out that were sold for over \$100 each, our money, and many fat weathers that brought from \$12 to \$15 each, in lots of tens and twenties. The market is well supplied too with veal, brought in in long two wheeled, one-horse spring carts, with cages in the place of the bed, and carrying from six to ten calves each, many of which I saw sold for \$15, and some few very prime ones as high as \$20. Veal at this season, is worth on the stall from 7d. to 8d., (14 to 16 cents,) per pound. There was also a good supply of early fat lamb, brought in cages similarly constructed, but with three tiers, one over the other, and containing from 30 to 40 lambs each—which readily sold at from 15s. to one guinea each; (\$3 to \$5 our money.) Lamb at this season here, is the greatest delicacy that can appear on the table. At the extreme end of this, is the "Springer market," where the in-calf cows, and those that have calved, stand, and are sold separately. Every thing that comes into the market, is consigned to some "salesman," of which there may be ten in all, but the aforesaid Billy Murphy sells nearly as much as all the rest together. He is the master-spirit and father of the market, having been now over half a century in that business, on the same stand, and in the same house; never, it is said, having failed to attend every Thursday during that period. (Mondays and Thursdays are cattle market days.) Though he seldom comes in on Monday for years back, leaving the sales on that day, to be attended by his assistants, of whom he has three, and a very fine young man, a son, all of whom have a minor interest in the business. Shortly after I got into the market, a man went up and down ringing a bell loud and sharp. I asked a gentleman near what it was for. "Sir, that is 8 o'clock he is ringing." "And does he ring every hour?" said I. "Oh, no, sir; you are a stranger I see. There is a rule of some 25 years standing, entered into between the salesmasters and butchers, that no cattle are to be sold to the Liverpool dealers until after 6 o'clock, in summer, and 8 o'clock in winter, at which hour notice is given, as you see, by the bell-man. This is done to insure the Dublin butchers time to make their selections, for the home consumption."

After walking up and down in silent amazement for some time, I ventured to inquire of a gentleman near me, which was Mr. Murphy's stand. "You are on it, sir," was the reply; "there he stands yonder himself, leaning on that butcher's shoulder. I viewed him for some time,

and could not help admitting to myself that he was a great man;—great in stature, great in mind and intellect, great in business, *was* great, very great in politics, (he has not interfered in them though since Cattan's time,)—last year he offered to pay O'Connell's fine, \$10,000, himself, for which he got great praise. He is great in wealth, too, being, it is said, worth fully one million sterling, all made in Smithfield as a cattle salesman. My father often told me that when he (Mr. Murphy,) had to fly the country in '98, for his life, on account of his tainted principles, he had but 200 guineas in the world, and since his return in 1800, he has amassed his present wealth. He is now turned of 70, tall, straight as a whip, not well looking, a very marked though pleasing and most intellectual countenance, stern to a degree when he pleases, surmounted by a head of strong, bushy, grizzly hair, not unlike that of our own General Jackson. When I found him for a moment disengaged, I went up and addressed him saying, "I am the son of John —, your old friend and companion, sir." He drew back and viewed me sternly for a minute, and then came to me with outstretched arms, and eyes filled with tears, and shook me heartily by both hands, saying, "I know you now, I see the likeness; what is your name, my boy?" He quickly turned round, and beckoned to an elderly gentleman near by, to come to him, and said, "John Rorke, allow me to introduce you to the son of our good old friend, John —, from America; take him into breakfast," and addressing me, said, "let me see you, my boy, before you leave the market. I want you home with me; but now I must attend to business, the business of others." I find my sheet is full, and must conclude, leaving for my next, a description of the sumptuous breakfast table, prepared every market day by the salesmaster, for his friends and customers, and where in less than half an hour, I was introduced to some 40 or 50 of the elite of the Leinster graziers. I shall also astonish you with an account of Mr. Rorke's farm, where under one roof, he has 350 cows tied up, giving milk, and 200 heifers tied up fattening. Think of that for an Irish farmer!

Adieu.

F. I. F.

LETTERS FROM MR. HORSFORD—No. VII.

Having failed to receive our regular letter from Mr. HORSFORD, our correspondent in Germany, we have been kindly permitted to make the following extracts from one of his private letters, addressed to a gentleman of this city, dated Heidelberg, April 7, 1845:

"Through the kindness of the friend who has accompanied me constantly in my tour, I was introduced to the Grand Dukes' Director of Agriculture for the Duchy of Baden. A presentation of several numbers of the Cultivator, opened his heart to the show of every thing that he thought could interest me. Precisely what he is in office, I have not yet learned sufficiently well to define. The University of Heidelberg has a professor of Botany, and also a professor of Agriculture and a professor of what is called Forest Science. Besides these,—(from all of whom an economist, or perhaps generally teachers of agriculture only, receive a three years' course of instruction,)—there is the so called Director. He watches over seeds, fruits, roots, and the various implements that are introduced among the peasantry, and is manifestly a man of vast service to the nation. I could not help remarking in my excursions with him, that all the peasantry listened to what he said as to an oracle. His residence is in one of the University gardens, which includes perhaps four acres. The grounds are covered with every variety of horticultural product, and immediately in the rear of his house, enjoying a southern exposure, is an extensive green house, abounding in tropical plants. His salary, like those of the professors generally, is paid directly from the government, and he has nothing to do but make science practical—an avocation to which he has devoted himself with genuine German assiduity. He is the author of several works, two little ones of which I intend to translate, if I can find time. They are upon gardening and fruit-growing, written in a beautiful, simple style, for children, and are employed throughout the

Dukedom in the village schools. He has also written a work upon the Cerealia, unexampled in Europe; and has already a work ready for the press upon cottage and out-house architecture, adapting the plans to every grade of want and means of the peasant.

"At seven o'clock, Monday morning, I accompanied the Director, a blacksmith, and a student in agriculture, to witness a trial of four plows; among which was one of American model. After a ride of four miles in one of the most inconvenient farm wagons, we reached the place of action. It was a tract of land in the valley of the Rhine, about three-quarters of a mile square, owned or worked by four peasants. Near were eight pair of fine, large, fat horses, all trailing plows of the ordinary construction here; every plow having either a pair of wheels, or a kind of shoe near the clevis, regulating the depth. The plows were severally tried and condemned or approved, as the peasants thought proper. The American plow was adapted to much deeper work than they considered necessary, and its behavior created no little amusement. Uncontrolled by wheels, it shook the plowman and his pipe so inordinately that he condemned it in less than twenty yards of trial. Improvement in agricultural implements is just being introduced here, and these different models of plows will be tried by at least four or five peasants, and their form altered, if necessary to meet the unanimous opinion of them; and a manufacture commenced. I will give you in a short space, a summary of much that I learned during my visit.

"They do not plow deep here—generally not more than six inches. The soil is a clayey loam, fine texture for tillage. The cultivation most thorough, notwithstanding the imperfection of the instruments compared with those of America. No pasture-land is here permitted. The cows, which are profitably worked by the humbler peasantry, being stall-fed. There are somewhat extensive tracts of government land, enjoying a system of irrigation from a stream of ten feet wide by two in depth, the waters of which are conducted, when the season is dry, to every twenty square yards, exclusively given to grass.

"The potatoe sickness is well known here, and guarded against by perpetual changes of varieties and soils—bringing from up-land to low-land, and *vice versa*, besides replacing from the seed. Every variety of plant having its period of existence, they look forward to its ultimate extinction, and provide for its replacement. Geology gave us this great truth some time since. This is, however, too wide a field to broach.

"Whole potatoes do better than parts, and potatoes to be planted should be spread out during the winter and kept dry, to prevent the development of the shoots before planting. If the eyes are grown at all, they should be handled with much care so as not to break them off.

"All fruit is grafted. Apples and pears are the chief fruits grown by the peasantry. The trees all appear to me stunted, as if the propagated fruit was already old. They think there are identical fruits here, already 600 years old. I doubt it. The nursery is owned by a kind of county agricultural society, from which the best specimens, after five years' growth, (those from the graft,) are taken by individual members. Of the remainder, the imperfect ones are destroyed, and from the balance, all the peasants who wish them, are supplied, at the mere expense of taking them up. A man having a new variety of tobacco, or of seed which he wishes to try, sends it to the Director, and he gives it to peasants near, directing as to its treatment. The result of the experiment is communicated to the original owner, without charge.

"Agricultural meetings of the *econom*s are held monthly, at which questions about every thing connected with agriculture are submitted, and among themselves committees appointed upon them. Of these, and many other matters, I took brief notes, which I will preserve, for they may yet be of service in America. The Director has paid a visit to England to compare agriculture there with that of Baden. In cattle, sheep, and swine, the English are far before the Germans; in cultivation, decidedly behind, he thinks."

Mr. Horsford happened to be at the city of Frankfort

at the time of its great Fair, at which he thinks there were engaged in disposing of various articles, about 3,000 people. In this place three of the celebrated family of Rothschilds reside, in reference to whom Mr. H. makes the following remark:

"In walking about town, I passed the residences of the three Rothschilds who permanently reside here. They are fine dwellings, but eclipsed by many in Broadway. (The younger brother, whom we happened to meet, reminded me most forcibly of my friend Mr. S. just beyond the Normans-kill.) The mother of these sons, whose united wealth is supposed to equal 500,000,000 florins, or \$200,000,000, still lives in the house that gave them birth, in the so called Jew-street, which is without exception the most wretched avenue I ever passed through. I refer to its external appearance. The first story is occupied by old women and men, in loathsome apparel, engaged in buying or selling old coats, old shoes, broken andirons, nails, bits of chains, &c., every thing exhibiting the most squalid features. This is, however, I was told, a safe guard, for above are indices of the wealth which enables the Jew to do so much toward controlling the commerce of Europe."

Concerning the state of morals and religion, Mr. Horsford observes,

"In Heidleberg the Protestant and Catholic churches worship in the same house, and so they do also in Frankfort—alternately, in the latter town—while in the former, they have thrown up a wall midway between. So far as I have yet seen there is very little church-going here. Indeed the fact that the best operas are always on Sunday evening, would establish what is by no means a question, that the Sabbath is a mere suspension of labor for amusement. In looking over my experience of the Sabbath thus far in this land, where science sheds so much light, my heart turns to New England and the Northern portion of the United States, as my friend Norton in Edinburgh remarks, as the hope of the world."

MR. MITCHELL'S LETTERS—No. IX.

Paris, 23d July, 1845.

LUTHER TUCKER, Esq.—Of the capital of France there is little to be said agriculturally, except to mention the abundant supply of vegetables of every variety—of meats and of fruits. Apricots, peaches, plums, and figs, are in all the fruiterer's windows, and are no less grateful in taste than fair in appearance. Prices for such are less than in English markets, and do not greatly differ from prices at home.

Flowers form no inconsiderable object of sale in the Paris markets, and upon some particular days the value of these exposed for sale has been estimated at 45,000 francs. One or two markets are exclusively devoted to their sale.

Meats range at even higher prices than in the larger number of the English markets; this arises not so much from scarcity, as from the high duties which attend its introduction into the city, and the charges of the slaughter houses. The city duties, or *octroi*, are levied upon every article of farm produce, or home or foreign manufacture, which comes within the city barriers. No private gentleman can go out of the city for an evening ride without stopping at the gates upon his return and submitting to the examination of the officers of the city customs. The poorest peasant with his donkey, or the highest officer of the crown—all but the king—are exposed to the same treatment. Oxen pay per head, 24 francs; cows, 15 francs; calves, 6 francs; sheep, 1 franc and 10 sous. The slaughter houses, or *abattoirs*, are city property, built by order of Napoleon. There are five, and no cattle are allowed to be slaughtered elsewhere in the city. Three are on the northern border, two on the south. The duties paid for admission within the *abattoirs* are 6 francs on an ox; 4 francs a cow, &c. I was at the largest of these—the *Abattoir de Popincourt*, yesterday. The buildings, which are built in most serviceable order, consisting of stalls, slaughter houses, attics for drying skins, lofts for hay, tallow houses, &c., are within a high stone enclosure, 640 feet long, by 570 broad. 400 oxen

are butchered a week, 600 cows, and 2000 sheep. The bodies of beeves are inflated with bellows made for the purpose, before removing the hide. This renders the skinning a much easier process, and leaves the fat upon the muscle light and fleecy. The meat is taken to the shops at night. An inspector is constantly in attendance, who examines the meat, and if the slightest taint is discernible, it is forthwith sent to the *Jardin des Plantes* to feed the animals of the menagerie. The courts are all paved, and by means of large reservoirs of water, are kept constantly clean. The system is unknown in England, but is worthy of imitation by any country. Paris is indebted for it, to the same mind to which she owes all her great works—the greatest mind that ever belonged to one who called himself a Frenchman.

The beef I saw was miserably poor; and all the arts of French dressing and inflation, and Parisian cookery, cannot make it for one moment compare with the roast beef of Old England. What is true of the beef is more true of the mutton. French art is in the dressing, but English art is in the making of the meat. It is the height of a Frenchman's pride to make a poor beast seem a fat one; it is the pride of an Englishman to make a poor one be a fat one. The different styles of dressing are classified and improved upon, while little attention is paid to breeds. Most of the cattle are hard fleshed and raw boned. The color and shape are of every variety. Average price of oxen is from 300 to 330 francs per head; of cows, 200 francs per head; calves 80 to 90 francs. The principal cattle market is held at Poissy, six leagues from Paris; there is nothing similar to the Smithfield market of London.

There are schools in Paris for nearly every thing but Agriculture. I am not aware of any institution existing to favor its interests.

Whoever imagines all France a sand plain, with little to interest an agricultural eye, has never been along the banks of the Seine. Putting aside all notice of the pictures given of that river valley, which would be uninteresting to your readers—there is yet a show of crops which for variety and richness, I do not remember to be surpassed by any similar extent of surface in England. It is, however, owing more to the richness of soil, than to practice of the arts of cultivation. I saw no evidence of drilling or draining, though my view was necessarily very superficial; and such implements as came under notice, were of the most clumsy and antiquated construction. The lands passed were farmed in small parcels, and not unfrequently five or six crops were seen growing in the same fields. Rye, barley, oats, wheat, and potatoes, are grown in nearly equal quantities. With the exception of some of the alluvial flats devoted to grass, I do not remember to have seen more than five or six acres devoted to a single crop. This minute subdivision of lands, presenting each its peculiar product, gives a singular appearance to the country, and as the road ran over some eminences, along the banks of the river, offering to view a wide extent of territory, the effect was wonderful. The wheat heads are just catching the color of gold, the oats had taken on the whitish delicate green of full bloom, the rye was white, and here and there the reapers, men and women, were cutting or binding it; contrasting with it, was the glossy hue of long lines of Swedes, or the rich deep green of the tangled tares, or the waving and bristling beards of the barley. All these colored crops, in stripes or in squares, covered the whole banks; sometimes stretching down to the very brink of the water, and sometimes running away—their distinctive shades not lost in the distance, far over the opposite hills.

Of the character of the farm buildings, and the domestic habits of the laborers, I can speak more fully in future. One thing is at the outset discernible—great lack of that rural taste which belongs so peculiarly to the English country liver.

My letters are written from the spot, and of the spot I happen to be in; hence little method is observed. While traveling, the same scattered notes must be expected. Should circumstances direct an after continuance of correspondence more order will be used. Meantime, I remain
Yours, truly,
D. G. M.

Domestic Correspondence.

A WORD OR TWO ABOUT BEE HIVES.

LUTHER TUCKER, Esq.—In making hives for bees, there appear to be two important objects to be gained—viz: Security against the moth, and to obtain the honey without injuring the bees. Almost every new invention attempts to perfect one or the other of these objects. Upon observing these little insects in their wild state, we find them content with almost any clean cavity which contains sufficient space and affords them security against the weather. Learning this fact, it behooves us to give them as simple a contrivance as possible to combine comfort, security, profit, and neatness. They want no "patent fortified palaces," but a home. Give them a convenient and neat one, and they will fortify it themselves against all intruders. I have for several years kept bees, and have taken an interest in obtaining suitable hives for them, have examined a great many patent constructions and believe the following simple one, which is free to all, combines all the advantages of any of the complex patents.

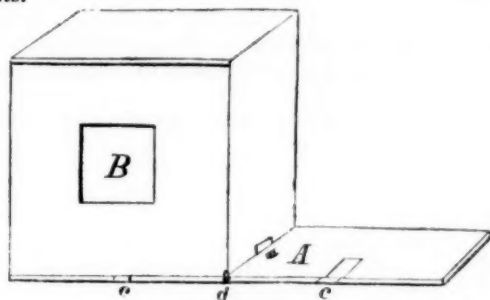


Fig. 80.

Fig 80 represents the stock hive placed upon a movable bottom A, which can be taken out and cleaned at pleasure—B B B, are glass windows, with shutters—c c, show the entrances which are in the bottom board—d, slide made of small hoop iron, working in a saw-cut in the side of the stock hive and controlling the door c, which connects the two hives. When the stock hive is filled, place a brick against the entrance c, set another

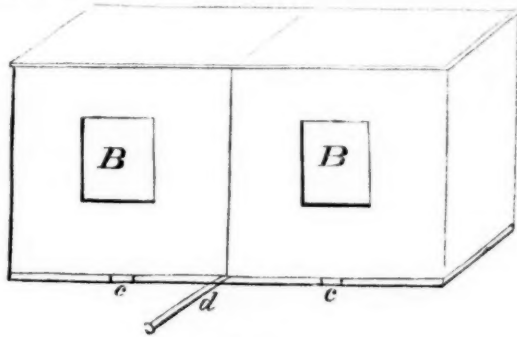


Fig. 81.

hive on A, as in fig. 81; draw out the slide d, and the bees finding no outlet excepting through the new hive by the door c, will pass out that way and soon commence building in the additional hive.

These hives are ten inches in the clear in length, breadth, and height, and if made in a workmanlike manner, and painted, are an ornament to any grounds, and will secure all the honey the swarm can spare, to the owner, without injury to one bee.

In regard to the moth, I would remark, there has not one hive come under my observation which offers much security against them. To stop their ravages we must prevent them from laying their eggs about the hive; to effect which the following simple plan (which I see some of your correspondents have noticed,) and which I have tried for the last three years, is perfectly effective:

Take a vessel with precipitous sides, a tin cup or porringer for instance; fill it about half full of mild vinegar or cider, place them at nightfall on the benches or hives, about one to each, and remove them early in the morn

ing. Every miller that passes that way will be found in the liquid. By persevering in this course during the months in which the moth lays her eggs, all loss from her ravages may be prevented. **BARCLAY WHITE.**

Pemberton, N. J., 6 mo. 13, 1845.

SOUTHERN AGRICULTURE.

L. TUCKER, Esq.—Our new postage bill, will, I hope, enable you to receive even more communications than heretofore, though we cannot complain of you in that respect. Hereafter many will pay their ten cents who have never written you, because unwilling to meet the heavier tax.

I am always gratified to read the articles from your southern correspondents, and hope your paper, though located so far north, will prove as much a southern as a northern conveyance of information. The benefit it has already conferred on the agricultural community, is now duly appreciated, but we hope ere long, in addition to such matters as are common to all who are engaged in agriculture, to find valuable information adapted to our own soil and climate.

The agriculture of the south and north, must, under present circumstances, be essentially different. At the north, you hold for instance, a certain quantity of land, and having to hire the labor necessary to cultivate it, and to conduct all proceedings by regular calculation of cost and probable return, you can thus ascertain what amount of land you can work to profit. With us it is different. Land is much cheaper. We have a certain number of negroes, and by this we regulate our animal force. Now we wish to employ these laborers and horses or mules to the best advantage, and at this time it is a question of some difficulty and doubt. If, for instance, we plant only such a quantity of land as we can manure, we must turn some of this force into other channels, and it is a matter of but little doubt, that until some of this labor can be profitably abstracted and applied to manufactures, the improvement in the yield of our cleared lands will necessarily be slow, and the bad system of continual clearing land and waste of timber for fencing, will probably continue. The attention given to collecting manure, is certainly becoming more extensive, and some force is now applied to this purpose which heretofore has been given to working the crops; but this is necessarily limited, and it is not possible to manure any large proportion of our land as it should be. A little sketch of our method may not be amiss.

We keep then, as large a stock of cattle as we suppose we can winter on the offal of our crops, viz: The shucks, straw, &c. (The blades or fodder as we call it being necessary for our horses, and where near a market for sale,) and in the fall, when our corn is gathered in, they glean the fields of the tassels, bits of blades, late and unripe stalks, &c., and the little grass and pea vines, that may be found. These cattle are generally penned at night and given access to the corn shucks and straw, and supplied (by good farmers) with plenty of oak leaves, pine straw, corn stalks, and any litter they may find.

The stables are cleared out now and then, and the manure spread in the cow pen, and fresh leaves given to cover it. It is piled up some time in January, and in March hauled out to our cotton and corn crops; to the latter applied at the rate of about three loads (two horse loads) to the acre, which admits of a good double handful to the hill, the corn being planted 4 by 4, or 5 by 3, or some such distance. This, after being applied to the land every year, will in the course of a few years improve it somewhat. My own practice is to put what manure I have in the spring as mentioned above, and that I can collect in the fall is given to the same field for wheat. After the wheat is cut, a considerable growth of weeds and grass takes place, and is left to decay upon the ground, to be turned in, if opportunity offers in the fall, though but rarely before spring. I plant no cotton, (but little made in this district,) and the land again has to be put in corn; sometimes in oats. We plant the cow pea between the hills of corn; generally at the second plowing, and this I think a very important addition to our crop. The peas are picked, and the leaves and

vines, I think, if not eaten down by cattle, tend to improve the land. The cow pea is a dangerous article of food to all stock when fed in too great a quantity in a raw state; but after the field has been picked over, and only such quantity left as the stock must travel a good deal to obtain a meal of, it is very fattening; and helps to put our hogs in fine condition before putting up to fatten.

Those that we are able to gather in by hand are used for feeding our milch cows. They are boiled and eaten very greedily by most, increase the quantity of milk very much, but (what is not generally known,) ruin the butter. For hogs, boiled, they are unsurpassed even by corn itself.

I always devote a piece of good ground on which I drill the cow pea—often after rye or wheat has been taken, and when the pod begins to mature, have the vines cut or pulled up and cured as the finest food for our milch cows that can possibly be obtained by us; but they must be properly cured so as to save the leaves, which like clover and lucerne are extremely likely to be lost.

We find that we are so limited in our articles of culture, not being able to cultivate clover or any of the grasses, that a system of rotation for more than three years, cannot well be carried into effect. The quantity of land planted in cotton or corn at the south being necessarily so much larger than small grain, roots, &c., will always interfere in this respect. We find it difficult then, to arrange any regular scheme on paper, but must alternate as convenient. Corn, cotton, wheat, rye, oats, and rest, must be managed as judiciously as we can. The last year I sowed a piece of ground broadcast in cow peas intending it to be turned in for the benefit of the land; but upon reflection, in the fall, when ready to plow it in—reflection caused by casting an eye upon my cows, who would have said, if they could speak—"Ah why not pull these, we would thank you much, and return them to you again in the stable yard, besides getting the benefit of them ourselves." As you may suppose, they were pulled, and my cattle benefited much by the exchange. Whether it would have been more judicious to turn them in, or use them as I did, I think exceedingly questionable. Now sir, if we are disposed to devote a little labor and seed peas towards improving our lands by sowing them on our fields in the year of rest, or after wheat, would it be better to gather the produce to feed to our stock, and even increase our stock to consume it, or plow it in? It would hardly require an increase of stock on even our best plantations, as we all keep more than we can well feed in winter. In summer they do well in old fields and swamps.

There are many other considerations that I would suggest, as going to show the essential difference between the north and south, as incidental to our peculiar institution, in contrast with the hired labor of the north, the merits and demerits of which institution, I hope will never be discussed in your paper.

I have extended this to an unwarrantable length, but if you think it worth an insertion I may address you again; if not, it is but a spare moment wasted, of which my health throws many upon my hands within doors.

Greenville Dist., S. C., July, 1845.

J. W. G.

CURE FOR SCOURS IN SHEEP.—First take your sheep-shears and tag them, as the filth that adheres to them in such cases, seems to augment the disease. Secondly, pick up a piece of straw or hay, and pick open the issues, as you will find one on the front of each foot, immediately above the division of the hoof, which is generally if not always closed when the animal is thus diseased. Be very careful not to break the skin. It may in some cases be necessary to open them twice a day for two or three days, but once will generally effect a cure. Should it be necessary to administer medicine internally, take good rennet prepared just as the cheese-makers use it to set their curd for cheese, and give from four to six table spoonfuls, according to the size or age of the sheep. To a lamb eight or ten months old, I give four spoonfuls, and if it is not well in twenty-four hours, I repeat it, and I always cure. I keep the article on hand in a bottle at all times.

REED BURRITT.

Burdett, Tompkins Co., N. Y., July, 1845.

NOTES OF TRAVEL IN THE SOUTHWEST—No. VI.

BY SOLON ROBINSON.

[Mr. Robinson commences this letter, by informing his readers, that on the 12th day of February, the date of his letter, the peach and plum trees in the part of the country from which he writes, (the north portion of Mississippi,) are in full bloom. He states that the region is quite new, it being "the much talked of Chickasaw purchase," and that the people live mostly in log cabins. The land is described as being generally good for cotton, but in Mr. R.'s opinion, an investment of more than 37 cents per acre, for a large portion of it, would not prove profitable, on account of the extremely low price of cotton. The course of cultivation generally practiced, is represented as very deteriorating. The land is mostly hilly, and by injudicious management, is said to be greatly injured by washing. Mr. R. says he passed a field in the north part of Yallabusha county, in which he saw "twenty plows, each drawn by a single horse or mule, and some of them pretty poor at that." This land, he says, "was to be planted to corn without any further plowing, and this certainly was not two inches deep in the average." The soil is said to have been originally about six inches deep, but by this mode of barely "scratching" and loosening the surface, it is in many cases nearly all washed away, leaving the fields cut up by deep gullies. But that this wasteful cultivation, which Mr. R. so much deplores, is by no means universal, will appear from his description of some beautiful and well-managed plantations—to one of which he introduces us by a relation of the following pleasant incident, which, though somewhat *elongated*, we think our readers will be interested to peruse in his own language—ED.]

Finding so little of the spirit of improved husbandry, and so few with whom I could feel as though I was with old acquaintances, the pleasure of a circumstance that happened to me on this evening cannot be realized by my readers, by any description that I can give; and can only be judged of by other travellers who after toiling despondingly through darkness and difficulty, suddenly find themselves by the warm hearthstone of a new found and unexpected friend.

The day had been warm and balmy as a New-England mid May day, the roads good from the effect of good weather. The blossoms, as I have before remarked, making the air fragrant; garden vegetables green growing in luxuriance; while hundreds of negro laborers, busy in the fields, made the world seem glad some with their cheerful laugh and jovial song. Yet amid all, I could not feel glad some myself, for I could not but see ruin following in the footsteps of such a system of cultivation as I too frequently witnessed. In this mood of mind, I passed Coffeetown, the county seat of Yallabusha, just before sun down, and as the town, which is built upon almost as many hills as ancient Rome, offers but little inducement to a stranger to spend a night, I passed on with the intention of stopping at some roadside house, a mile or two on; but after passing that distance and seeing no more pleasant prospect ahead, I made inquiry of a passing negro, and was assured that I should find no stopping place "this side of Tom Hardiman's, and dat was six mile mighty bad road," which I was bound to get over or stick fast in, with a tired team and in a dark night. On, on, I went, over hills, stumps, gulleys, streams, mud, and in the expectancy of a very poor supper. How I was at length disappointed! Although I found the house a low log cabin, built after the universal, never varying pattern, of two rooms with a broad hall between, I was struck with surprise, and at once impressed with the idea that I should find something out of the common course of things within. Reader, would you know why I received this impression in advance, and that so suddenly, and only from the glimpse I caught by candlelight, as the host advanced to answer my call. Here it is. From the house, yes, from that rude, block log cabin to the front gate, extended a neat arbor for the support of twining flowers, climbing vines and roses. Did you ever see such an outward sign, without feeling at once assured that taste, intelligence, neatness,

and comfort dwelt within? At all events I found it true in this instance. In far less time than usual, when waiting upon a negro cook, I was seated at the supper table. The neatness and profuse variety of the dishes with which it was loaded, were rendered still more palatable by the presence of just such a woman as might have been expected from the outside sign which I have mentioned, and the beauty of whose face was undoubtedly improved by the healthful glow that she had acquired that very day by her personal superintendence of the cultivation of her flowers. But weary as she may have been, and late as was the hour, she did not feel herself at liberty to neglect the tired and hungry traveller; and I ate a far better supper that night in "Tom Hardiman's" log cabin, than I had before eaten in far better houses, where better things might have been looked for, only that the lady did not cultivate a flower garden.

Although I am no great believer in clairvoyance, I certainly witnessed here a wonderful case of "guessing," considering the guesser was a Tennessean instead of one of the "guessing nation."

During supper I observed that I was undergoing a most rigid scrutiny by Mr. Hardiman, who on observing that I noticed him, began to excuse himself by saying that he was struck by a very singular impression which he could not account for, and he had been examining my face to see if he could not recognize the features of "an old acquaintance," whom he had never seen or known, except as he had seen his features in his letters to the Cultivator and other agricultural papers; and though he had never received any intimation that the person he alluded to was in that part of the U. S., he was irresistibly impressed with the idea that I was the man.

My curiosity was excited; my toilsome evening's ride was not forgotten, but looked back upon with pleasure. I had at length found an "old acquaintance," and I did not hesitate to ask him "who he took me for?" And when I assured him that I was the very individual he had guessed I was, I have never met with a warmer reception or apparently given more pleasure by a visit to any real old acquaintance in my life. Somewhere along toward the last end of the night I laid down to take a nap, and in the morning after breakfast, saddle horses were brought to the door, upon one of which I spent the forenoon in looking over the plantation and examining the first specimens I had seen of "side hill ditching," and "horizontal plowing," of which I shall speak further hereafter.

Mr. Hardiman has discovered a fact that the former proprietor of the place was not aware of, and I speak of it here because there are a great many others who have not yet discovered it. And that is, that land lying at the foot of the hills, that receives all the soil that is worked down from them, if once cleared of timber and brush and brought into cultivation, will actually produce cotton. True, it does require a little more labor to clear it than it does the thin timbered and thinner soiled hills; and another thing, it wont wear out, and give the owner an excuse to migrate. When Mr. Hardiman first commenced, he was laughed at by some of his neighbors for trying to cultivate a swamp. But a few ditches to straighten the branches and lead off the standing water, soon proved how much more valuable this kind of neglected land is, than the poor washing hills. Here I saw another curiosity. Hands employed scraping every hole and corner around the buildings and yards for manure.

The food for the field hands is all cooked at the kitchen, and dealt out without weight or measure, and they have all the bacon, corn bread, and vegetables that they need.

At dinner to-day, Feb. 15, I feasted upon some of the largest and best heads of lettuce I ever saw, grown in the open air, and a greater variety of vegetables than I have seen since I left St. Louis, one of which was the Jerusalem artichoke, which, boiled and mashed up like turneps, makes an excellent dish. I presume many of your eastern readers do not understand that the Jerusalem artichoke is a kind of vegetable that they have long been acquainted with, and which can be found in some by-corner on half the New England farms. They are a valuable crop, being raised for hogs. Mr. Hardiman has raised Irish potatoes from the same seed, for eight years, and thereby proved that it is not necessary to get new

seed from the North every year, "cause it runs out." He plants in November, and they ripen in May, but he lets them remain through the summer in the hills.

One fact in regard to his management of negroes might be pursued by parents toward children, as well as masters towards servants. *He keeps them at home*; and he very rarely has occasion to punish.

Having learned that the name of the post-office here was "Okachickama," I found by reference to a memorandum, that I was in the neighborhood of another old acquaintance, JOHN T. LEIGH, Esq., and in the afternoon we rode over to his house, and found him reading the *S. W. Farmer*, where he had just discovered that I was on my way to Mississippi, and expressing his regret to his family that he should not probably meet with me, as he lived off of any leading road. His astonishment and pleasure may be "guessed" at, when Mr. Hardiman introduced the very individual whose name was then upon his lips.

I had only come for a short call. *I stayed two nights.* Who ever escaped Virginia hospitality in less time. How these meetings and joyous welcomes, and show of respect from every member of a family, do sink into the heart and search out every kind feeling, and strengthen every emotion that prompts in the labor of doing good, and promoting the happiness of our fellow creatures. What other recompense can be so dear to one devoting time and talents to increase the knowledge, and consequently add joy to the mind of his universal brethren, as such interviews as the one I have just described and am now describing. Have patience with me, my northern friends, if I appear tedious, but I am anxious to paint you a picture of a Mississippi planter, in which you may see all the little minutiae of his household; so different, so wonderfully different from your own.

Mr. Leigh works about 35 field hands, including blacksmiths, carpenters, spinners, and weavers; the latter only working in the field in "picking time"—that is, when the cotton is ripe and ready to gather, which in the way of hurry, answers to the time of your harvest. He owns about ninety negroes, old and young, all of whom live in families by themselves, in very comfortable log cabins, some of which are neatly furnished and provided with household matters and things, and others that are exactly the reverse, and look just like some white folks' houses. These families have a weekly ration of three and a half pounds of bacon, clear of bone, for each member, except small children, who are furnished with food in proportion to size and numbers. About a peck and a half of meal is also given, and more, if they can use it without waste, and sweet potatoes, turneps, squashes, onions, green corn, and various other vegetables, as well as melons and peaches, by untold quantities; and all show by their looks that they are full fed and well clothed.

"The quarters," that is the place where the negro cabins stand, are away from the dwelling house, and are so arranged as to be in sight of the overseer's house, so that he can always have an eye to anything going wrong. For negroes, like children, want a deal of careful watching at all times.

When the hands go to their work in the morning, all the children are taken to the nursery, where they are taken care of and fed by a woman who does nothing else. Women never go to the field until the child is a month old, and from then till weaning time, return to nurse them at stated times. Hands either take their breakfast and dinner to the field with them, or have it sent out in little tin buckets, kept for the purpose.

Mr. Leigh has 640 acres of land in cultivation, including about 80 acres taken up in yards, gardens, orchard, &c. Of the balance, he puts 200 acres in corn, 60 or 70 acres in oats, and the remainder in cotton, upon which he made for the last three years, from 125 to 135 bales a year. [A bale of cotton is always 400 lbs.] He put up last year, 16,000 lbs. of bacon, for the use of the plantation, and intends in future, to keep up a supply. This being the first year of the ten since the commencement of the plantation that it has provided its own meat.

He still continues to clear some land every year, and particularly to clear up all the "hard spots" that were

left at the first clearing; straightening the crooked channels of branches, and filling up and cultivating the old channels; draining little ponds, &c. But what is of vast importance and necessity for every Mississippi farmer to learn and practice, he has the whole plantation under a complete system of hill-side ditches, by which he wholly prevents the light soil from washing away, and adds greatly to the value of the land, and the annual amount of the crops.

Now if any body should ask "what are hill-side ditches?" I have to say, that the whole of all the numerous hill-sides are ditched with one or more ditches, as may be necessary to take up and carry off all the falling water, almost on a level, and winding round till an outlet can be found to discharge it without injury to the land. These ditches are laid off by a level, and are intended to remain permanent fixtures; and all the plowing has to conform to their shape, and as a matter of course, utterly annihilating "straight rows." This great and indispensable improvement upon Mr. Leigh's farm, was done by his very intelligent son, Randolph, who until the present year has had the sole charge of overseeing the plantation; thereby proving, that one rich planter's son could make himself a useful member of society. I wish I could say all sons were like this estimable young man—particularly my own. In this connection, I must not forget to mention Mr. Leigh's son-in-law, Dr. Town, whose plantation is adjoining, and cultivated under the same system, and which he wholly oversees himself.

Mr. Leigh works 17 mules and horses, and three yoke of oxen; has about 200 hogs, 50 head of cattle, 70 sheep, which are sheared twice a year, and from which he makes all the light negro clothing,—he also makes all the cotton clothing used.

He hauls his cotton about seven miles, where it is shipped on steamboats in high water, upon the Yallabusha river, which empties into the Yazoo, and thence into the Mississippi, above Vicksburgh. All his supplies come through the same source, even a year's stock of flour, which he gets from Richmond, that being the only kind that will keep good through the summer. Who can tell why? It is important to Ohio millers, whose flour can always be had considerably cheaper.

Mr. Leigh has what but few others in this region have, an abundance of stone. It is a mixture of iron and sand, very hard, and is found in layers, with natural smooth fractures, that fit it for building purposes. It stands fire when the edge is exposed to the heat, but if reversed from the position that it is found in, it scales off and flies all over the house like grape shot.

Mr. Leigh is very successful in keeping his sweet potatoes packed in cotton seed, in a well ventilated room; and as a very strong evidence that his negroes do not suffer much want for food, I observed that this potatoe house had no fastening to prevent them from helping themselves if badly pinched with hunger.

Now I think I hear some of my eastern fair readers exclaim, "Well now, I do wish he would tell us what sort of a house this Mississippi nabob lives in?—very splendid, I dare say. Oh, I wish I could see it." Well, madam, it is a common double log cabin, with a hall between. "Why, you don't mean to say, that a man with such a farm, and so many negroes, lives in such a house as that?"

Oh yes I do, and very comfortably and nicely he does live too, for he has a wife—ah, a wife, madam; not a mere piece of household furniture, such as your boarding school bred farmer's daughter will make—totally unfit for a farmer's wife. "Well now, do tell me where they all stay in such a house as that?" Why, madam, there is another cabin back in the yard—that is the kitchen—no matter that it is so far off the eating room—it is Mississippi fashion; and there are plenty of negroes to run back and forth; and here is another building—that is the smoke house; and there is another, that is the store room; and there are two or three more, those are lodging rooms. No matter that they are ten rods from the house—it is the fashion—and as for that, convenience and comfort is ten times worse sacrificed every day, than it is in these household arrangements. True, such arrange

ments would not suit us at the north, but here use and negro labor make the difference. I have seen in more than one instance, the wood pile more than 40 rods from the house, and "the spring" twice that distance—two inconveniences that a yankee could never put up with. He would sooner have "the well," as well as the wood pile, both in the road, right in front of the door of the house, that almost stands in the road too, to say nothing of all the carts, plows, and sleds, also in the road, "between the house and barn," it is so convenient.

But we have much more yet to see of Mississippi life; and circumstances compel me to take a hasty leave of this fine family—this "fine old Virginia gentleman,"—and now for a little season I again bid you a kind adieu.

SOLON ROBINSON.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE N. Y. S. AG. SOCIETY.

"We will not be understood as condemning the volumes before us. On the contrary, we give great credit to the State Society for the work. At the same time we unhesitatingly say, that they contain much that had better been left out, for it has no connection with agriculture; and some which had better never been written, for it is full of error, and as such renders the authors and the Society liable to censure. The latter appears under the sanction of science, whilst true science will reject it."

"We think the Society have erred in the choice of men to deliver the addresses at the annual Fair. Not but they are men amply sufficient to do justice to the high claims of agriculture; but it is a subject which needs not eulogium nor praise. These it receives from all men, and its highest honor is the prosperity and happiness it confers upon a nation. The farmer needs instruction, not praise; and we submit it as our humble opinion that an address filled with good practical information—examining briefly the principles and the practice of agriculture, and setting forth inducements to advancement in knowledge of the art, would be vastly more useful to the thousands of hearers, than poetic rhapsodies. And in saying this we are conscious that we do not speak unadvisedly. We know it to be the opinion of a large—we might perhaps say—the largest portion of the farming community who attend these Fairs. They are common sense men and want to hear common sense."

MR. EDITOR—The above are extracts from a review in the last number of the "American Quarterly Journal of Agriculture and Science," of the "Transactions of the New-York State Agricultural Society, for 1844." I would refer the reader to the entire article, which he will find in the number for July, August and September, page 109, and at page 114 he will see the portions of the article alluded to.

If I have the right to review a *reviewer*, as a disinterested person standing between the reviewer and the work he comments upon, I must say that I have not discovered, to the extent he has, the defects alluded to; but that as a whole, I have read the last volume of "Transactions of the New-York State Agricultural Society," with both pleasure and profit; and being a practical man, I have no fears but the farmers of New-York will receive it with an interest equal to mine. It is true that every article in it is not unexceptionable, and I would like the reviewer to point out a book as a whole, that is so; still, although I will not say that it could not have been made better, yet I do say that after having began the volume, I could not lay it down until I had read it carefully through, and many of the articles I satisfactorily re-perused. The reviewer admits that as a whole, it may be well enough, although he does not use these words; but this is rather the conclusion to which he arrives; but if he bases his judgment upon the opinion he has formed, of which the above extracts are the exponents, then I have something to say in reply. In the first place he says—"that they," (meaning some of the articles,) "had better never been written, for they are full of error, and as such render the authors and the society liable to censure. The latter appears under the sanction of science, while true science will reject it." Now I object, totally object, to these wholesale remarks, as condemnatory of a single article in the book, and in my opinion, they are much more liable to "censure" than any thing in it. To which particular article or articles, he alludes, you are left to conjecture. If there is any one which true science rejects, it was his duty, standing in the position he does, to have pointed out, not only the article, but the error, and thus made us at least the wiser for his labor; but he assumes too much the attitude of the schoolmaster—to which, possibly, his situa-

tion as an editor of a Quarterly Journal of Agriculture may entitle him—who, upon entering his school, thinks he had better begin with a flourish of the whip, and at the same time condemn and praise just sufficiently to put the boys in proper awe of their teacher. I have no objection to assign this place to the Journal, if its editors wish to assume it; but I insist upon it, that they are bound as critics, as well as men of science, to point out defects in communications they comment upon, and thus give the authors of them an opportunity to sustain their opinions if tenable,—if not, to become at least wiser from the instruction that ought thus to be imparted. Until, therefore, the errors in these communications are pointed out and controverted beyond a doubt, I shall have to remain of the same opinion in regard to the Transactions as a whole, that I had formed previous to having seen the remarks of the reviewer.

As to the opinion he expresses, "that the Society have erred in the choice of men to deliver the Addresses at the annual Fair," I must say that I think *he*, not the Society, have erred. I was surprised at the whole tenor of his remarks on this subject, and least of all did I expect it from a man who has placed himself on an elevation, and must admire talent wherever it is exhibited. The address of Mr. Bancroft, to which the reviewer seems to have particularly alluded, at the last Fair at Poughkeepsie, seems to him to have been highly exceptionable, because it was not sufficiently practical to suit his taste. And upon this subject he is "conscious he does not speak unadvisedly." Now I assert, just as confidently, that the address was highly acceptable—was exactly suited to the occasion, and was received with much more than common gratification. Surely he could not have been present at its delivery, nor witnessed nor heard the enthusiasm with which it was received. I, fortunately, was present, and have often since reverted to the scene and the occasion, with unmingled pleasure—nay, more, I have read the address at least twice since its delivery, and have come to the conclusion that no man who attempts an address at a coming state Fair will make it until he has carefully read over Mr. Bancroft's. It was, in my opinion, just what it ought to be, both in matter and form of expression, and it is saying not too much of it, that as a piece of composition, it is a model of beauty, force and elegance. That address will be read wherever the English language is admired.

But the reviewer thinks it was not sufficiently practical as to matter. Now, permit me to ask, if upon an occasion of a State Fair, any remarks but general ones would be acceptable to the thousands assembled? and what part of that address would he have omitted without marring the whole? The subjects touched upon were highly proper in their kind, and there was enough of illustration to make it highly acceptable to the audience. If the reviewer objects to the whole matter and manner of the address, conceding it high merit simply as a performance, then I take issue with him, and say he is mistaken, and upon his own grounds as a practical man. What is the object of these Fairs? In the first place, to draw an audience. Then the object is to obtain a man to deliver the address whom the people generally would like to hear, and whose name will aid in attracting an audience. With that view, Dr. Nott, an accomplished and well known rhetorician, was called upon to deliver the address at Syracuse. Gov. Seward that of the succeeding year at Albany. Daniel Webster and John Quincy Adams were requested to speak the year after at Rochester, and acting under the same impulse, Mr. Bancroft consented to deliver the address at Poughkeepsie. Now, although we were disappointed in not hearing either Webster or Adams in Rochester, still there is no doubt the reputation of all these gentlemen aided very much to give eclat to these fairs. And it must not be objected that because they were not *practical* farmers, that therefore they were not the proper persons to officiate on these occasions. Their reception by the multitudes assembled, and the results, show that they were the very men of all others that should have been selected, and as long as the Society consults its real interests at the State fairs, its officers will select the most prominent men they can find, whether they are farmers or not, to deliver the

addresses. But I totally object to the delivery of a practical address at such a time and on such an occasion. When I attend State Fairs and see collected around me the best of every thing the earth or man can produce, I want an orator who is competent to describe the scene, and who can wake up my enthusiasm to a proper conception of the dignity of my employment, and show how much I owe to the talent and ingenuity of others. At a time like this, when the choicest productions of nature and art are around you, with all the embellishments that taste or genius can add, who would think of listening to a man who was lecturing upon the number of potatoes you should put into a hill, the size of a barn door, or the qualities of a pig, in preference to one who, with better judgment and with greater intellect, spoke in glowing terms of what man had done to renovate the soil and improve his condition. At the meeting of Farmer's Clubs, in social converse, or County Fairs, give more practical and useful lessons; but at State Fairs, I would join the *dulce* with the *utile*, and engraft pleasure on profit. If we at all times and on all occasions are to have nothing but the useful, three-fourths of the interest of our State Fairs is gone. By this rule we must exclude all the beautiful productions of our Maker and his agent, man, and confine ourselves to the exhibitions of vegetables, or of animals only. I cannot believe the editor of the Journal such a cynic, nor that he, when he reflects and looks around him, can be disposed to find fault with the beautiful productions of our Creator. Surely he meant these for the enjoyment of man, and on proper occasions, and when we have around us these beautiful displays of his goodness and munificence, it is proper and right that the beauty and force of oratory shall swell our hearts and warm our feelings to a just comprehension of our manifold and rapturous blessings. SENEX.

NOTES OF A BOTANICAL TOUR—NO. III.

MR. TUCKER—On the 24th April, 1842, we started on horseback for the Smoky mountains, at whose distant tops over which the clouds were almost continually rolling, I had often gazed during the past few days with longing eyes. I was anxious to be on those tops, to have the glorious mountain prospect—to become acquainted with their structure and vegetation—and above all, I hoped to discover something new. None but the botanist knows, none but the botanist can feel the joy which the sight of a new plant gives, especially if he be its discoverer. At such times he sees beauties unseen by others—tastes pleasures unfelt and unknown to others. What wonder then, that those who have a taste for natural history, rarely, if ever, are addicted to idle or dissipated habits, and for that very reason above all others, parents should cherish a love of nature in their children, resting assured that such love will make them happier and better.

We were provided with pack-saddlebags filled with paper for containing the plants; also port-folios and tin boxes. Dr. Rugel had a large, square tin box strapped to his shoulders and a straw hat tied beneath his chin. Rugel's horse was named Fox. I mounted first and rode on, but soon heard the clattering of hoofs, and Fox dashed by, with Rugel crying "whoa, Fox! whoa, Fox!" his hair streaming in the wind, with tin box and hat dashing up and down at every jump the horse made. I was reminded of John Gilpin's famous race, yet fearful of the result, refrained from laughing, until about a mile farther I overtook Rugel, who had stopped Fox in ascending a steep hill. Equipped as we were, the people along the route probably supposed we were peddlers, who often travel on horseback through the south-western states. The agriculture of this state was in a low state—the people seeming to care for little else than to raise enough bread-stuff for their own consumption, depending mostly on raising domestic animals to obtain money. We spent the night at Sevierville.

Early next morning we continued on in company with Drs. Hill and Hammer, who had kindly volunteered their services, and laid in a good store of bacon, corn bread, biscuit, flour, and coffee, with blankets for encamping at night. Our route was along the clear wa-

ters of the Little Pigeon river, which forms a fertile and picturesque valley among the mountains, and unites itself with the Big Pigeon river at Sevierville. We crossed the stream some 25 or 30 times, along whose banks the large shrub *Stuartia pentagynia* grew abundantly, with the last year's fruit still attached to its limbs. The *Hamiltonia oleifera*, (oil nut,) in flower, occurred frequently, and on small islands in the stream we first observed *Diervilla sessilifolia* (nobis.) Specimens of this shrub in flower had previously been sent to Torrey & Gray, by the Rev. M. A. Curtis, of N. C., and by them it was considered a variety of *D. trifida*. An examination of the capsules convinced Dr. Gray that it is a different species, and at his suggestion, I published it. We arrived at Stephen Hoskin's Log cabin, 18 miles from Sevierville, about noon, when the thermometer stood at 81 degrees in the shade. Here we left our horses and proceeded on foot by a path along the wild, foaming, noisy Little Pigeon, whose rocky bed was often forded. Six miles from where we left our horses we struck a path to the left, quitting the river when two miles farther; by ascending a good deal and descending some, we reached a small cove where epsom salts were made the preceding summer. On the route we found the true *Phacelia fimbriata* of Michaux, which had not been found by Botanists since Michaux collected it on the mountains of North Carolina. In several places it grew in great profusion, having delicate white fimbriate flowers. Pursh supposed a very common but different species (*P. Purshii nobis*) with blue flowers, to be Michaux's plant, and subsequent botanists were led into the same error. Along the small mountain streams grew the *Diphylleia cymosa*, (Mich.,) in flower. This is very common in similar situations through the mountains of North Carolina. The same is true of the *Saxifraga erosa*, which we first met here. Along the mountain sides were several trees, two to three feet in diameter, of *Halesia tetraaptera*, in flower, attaining a much larger size than *H. diptera*, (snow drop) which is common in the vicinity of streams, through the south-western states. It was sunset when we reached the small hut which had been used by the workmen while experimenting on the manufacture of epsom salts. We soon had a blazing fire, and with mountain appetites partook of an excellent supper. The thermometer had fallen to 32 degrees. The open cracks of our dwelling and two blankets afforded but a poor protection from the cold. However, I managed to get in the middle, and slept well, on a stone floor, with one blanket above and one beneath.

26th. A cold, misty, rainy day. We were greatly disappointed on account of the weather. The cove was surrounded by high, rugged mountains, whose rocky summits were often destitute of vegetation, over which the stormy clouds were continually rolling. It was only through occasional openings in the clouds that we had a glimpse of the rugged peaks. During a short cessation of the storm we ascended about two-thirds of the way up the mountain, to the place where the sulphate of magnesia was obtained for the manufacture of salts. Here beneath a high ledge of mica slate we obtained beautiful specimens of sulphate of alumina in botryoidal masses and capillary crystals. This beautiful mineral was very abundant, and the sight of this alone was a sufficient compensation for the toil of ascending the mountain, through the cold, misty rain. We were up among the clouds, which came tumbling over the mountains, down whose sides they descended until the air was sufficiently dense, when they floated, to be dissolved in rain or driven by the wind against the adjacent mountains. We returned to the encampment cold, wet, and hungry. In the afternoon, Dr. Hammer and I attempted to ascend a long, narrow, rocky ridge, leading up to one of the main summits. After much toil in crawling over and under dense thickets of *Rhododendron maximum* and *Kalmia latifolia*, with which the lower portion of the mountain was covered, we emerged into an open space consisting of loose mica slate rocks, partly covered by a low branched shrub, (*Ziophyllum serpyllifolium*, D. C.) It grew from one to two feet high, and was covered with white and pale red flowers, a distant view of which had caused us to ascend the mountain. Here my companion looking

round and seeing large gulfs on both sides, said he was afraid to proceed farther, and descended. The ridge was so narrow that at a point some 15 or 20 rods farther, there was a large hole through it, which we had seen during our forenoon's excursion. To reach this point I proceeded, collecting mosses, lichens, and specimens of *Leiophyllum*, until finally I found myself on a narrow ledge of loose rocks with precipices several hundred feet deep on both sides. It was a fearful place. With a palpitating heart I crept back, and hastened down the mountain.

27th. The day was cool and pleasant. Drs. Hill and Hammer returned home, and Rugel and I determined if possible, to reach the top of some of the highest peaks.* After much toil over many dangerous places where a mis-step would have thrown us down precipices on the rocks beneath, we reached a long narrow ridge above the rock which overhangs the sulphate of magnesia locality. Here we met with a few straggling small trees, *Betula lenta*, (sweet birch,) *Pinus fraseri*, (balsam fir,) which answers well to the description of Pursh, and is certainly very distinct from the *Pinus balsamæ* of New-England. Such deep gulfs were between the ridges that it was almost impossible to proceed from one to another; besides it was too early in the season to obtain specimens in flower in that elevated region. Growing in the rich vegetable mold of the cove, was the *Erythronium Americanum*, (Dog's tooth violet,) *Dielytra cucularia*, and *Dentaria heterophylla*. We retraced our steps to where we left our horses, and next day returned to Sevierville, loaded with specimens, and well pleased with the result of our excursion. Yours truly, S. B. BUCKLEY.

West Dresden, Yates Co., N. Y.

TRANSMUTATION.

MR. EDITOR—I have been somewhat amused, if not edified, by the arguments advanced in your paper from time to time by the advocates of the doctrine of the transmutation of wheat into chess. As a case in point, and something new to me, I will state a fact from my own observation. In the spring of 1839, I laid off a new garden, and as I had no manure of my own as rotten as I wished, I purchased six wagon loads from a neighbor, out of a manure bank, upon which, the season before, I observed a quantity of Jimson, or Jamestown weed growing. I detest this weed above almost any other, and had never seen it growing on my farm; but thinking that it would only trouble me for one year, I concluded to venture it. Well, the manure was scattered over the garden, pretty well worked in, and a good deal of Jimson was pulled up that year. Since that, the garden has been in constant cultivation; no Jimson weed to my certain knowledge has ever been suffered to go to seed, and but one or two to get in blossom. I have never found but about two stalks on any other part of the farm, and yet, every season since the manure was first put on the garden, it has come up more or less, and this season, which makes the seventh, it came up in greater quantity than it ever has since the first year. Now, if I had scattered this manure on my field, and then put in a crop among which Jimson would not grow, and so kept it until last fall, then sowed it in wheat, and the wheat had been destroyed by frost or otherwise, and I had found Jimson coming up thick in its place, where it had been never known to grow, would not I have been as much justified in concluding my wheat had turned to Jimson, as the advocates of transmutation are in concluding theirs has turned to chess?

My wheat used to "turn to chess" a good deal, though I sowed some little in my seed; yet, I always thought it came up five for one in proportion to the wheat. About six years ago I picked a half bushel of wheat, head by head, in order to get it pure from mixture of every kind. I sowed it on a clean piece of ground, and the next season had not a grain of chess or cockle in it. I have

sowed clean seed now for four years. I have not seen cockle on the farm since, and although my wheat has been winter-killed more or less every year, it has not "turned to chess" at the rate of more than from one to four stalks to the acre, and I think I might possibly have sown that much with my wheat without observing it. I have now a pile of wheat for seed on my barn floor, in which I think there cannot be one grain of chess found to the bushel, cleaned through a mill without a screen.

Piqua, Miami Co., O.

S. WIDNEY.

P. S. As you might wish to know, I will state that spring crops here look very fine, with the exception of hay, which is but middling. Wheat above an average yield, and remarkably heavy to the bushel, generally weighing 65 lbs. and upwards.

THE CULTIVATOR—A FARMER'S LIBRARY.

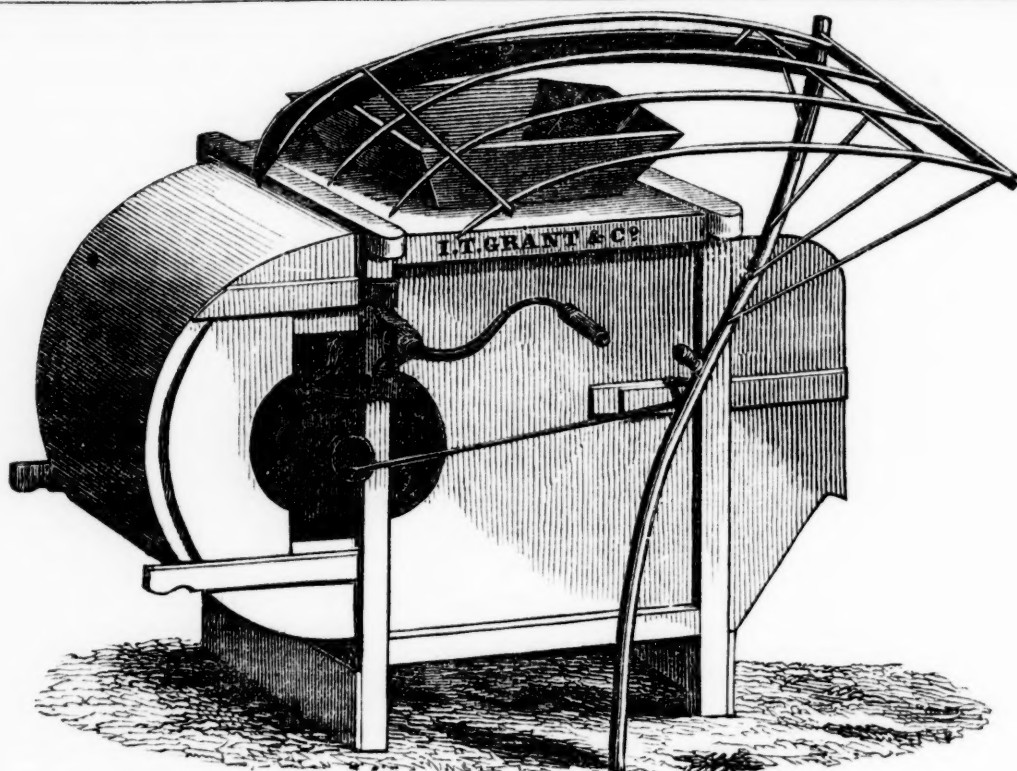
MR. TUCKER—I had been a rather irregular reader of the Cultivator for several years, failing to subscribe some years, and not receiving all the numbers other years, until last October, when I resolved to have the whole. I procured all the back volumes, neatly stitched, from your office, had them well bound, and have been occupying my leisure time this winter in reading the work in course. I began with Judge Buel's little experiment sheet, printed in March, 1834, and have examined somewhat carefully every paper down to your excellent number for January, 1845, which I finished last evening. The result is a most thorough conviction that the Cultivator eminently deserves to be labelled the FARMER'S LIBRARY, and purchased by every tiller of the soil, for the very first of his agricultural reading. I say this after having read many agricultural books, and several of the current agricultural papers, most of which are certainly valuable, and merit a high place in the farmer's reading. It is in the hope of inducing others to procure the entire work, and read it attentively, that I trouble you with this note.

The Cultivator, though not the pioneer, is certainly the standard agricultural paper of the land. And this will be cheerfully admitted by most readers, and by every conductor, (except perhaps one, almost the last one that should not admit it,) of agricultural papers. None can tell its value without a careful and somewhat continuous reading. It is as a book, or series of books, its real worth will be known. I had heard it said, (e. g.,) that the first vols. were worth little to any persons except the tillers of very sandy soils, such as constituted Judge Buel's farm—that later vols. were taken up with the chess controversy—with the controversy between the advocates of native and imported breeds of cattle, &c., &c. Nothing is more untrue. The vols. conducted by Judge Buel, are full of pure wheat; no chaff—no foul seed. His care for young farmers is excellent, and this department of his paper is alone worth more than the price of the whole, especially to every young man, who (like myself) has commenced farming since Judge B.'s death. The vols. since then are much like the last, which I take it the reader has seen, except that I thought each succeeding one better than its predecessor, and the present bids fair, (even saying nothing about the excellent cuts,) to be the best of all. I have been astonished to find in the whole work so little valueless matter—so little repetition—so little controversy. The correspondents have given a vast amount of scientific and practical information, while the labors (both scientific and practical, if they can be separated,) of the editors, especially Messrs. Buel, Gaylord, and Tucker, can hardly be appreciated above their worth. I am sure, I would not part with the information and the satisfaction I have obtained from the Cultivator for ten times its cost. And I sincerely hope every farmer who has not yet taken the paper will do so soon, and every one who has not the back vols. will send \$10 to Mr. Tucker at once and procure the whole. And if he does not find, on a careful perusal, that each volume is worth more, (counting worth, both pecuniarily and intellectually, or in the better tillage of his land, and the better culture of his mind,) I will agree to refund the sum, and take the library at once.

Ohio, Feb. 1, 1845.

H.

* According to M. Nichollett, the Smoky mountain, near the Warm Springs, is 5000 feet above the level of the sea, and judging from appearances, the range that we visited, between Sevier county, Tenn., and Haywood county, N. C., attains an elevation not far from 6000 feet.



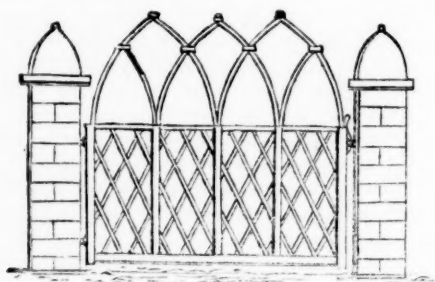
PREMIUM FANNING-MILL—(Fig. 82.)

Mr. TUCKER—I wish to occupy a brief space in the *Cultivator* to invite the attention of agriculturists to Mr. I. T. Grant's "Patent Fan-Mill," which in my opinion, excels any other mill now in use, in mechanism, durability, and utility. The "Patent Fan-Mill," is similar to the Fan-Mills heretofore manufactured by Mr. Grant, which mills have taken the 1st premium at two State and five County Fairs, except his late improvement, which consists in adding to the screen and other parts in general use in Fan-Mills, an additional screen, and what is denominated a chess board, which are arranged in such manner as to cause a much stronger blast of wind to act upon the grain at the lower part of the shaking sieves or screens than at the upper, and thereby to aid the action of said sieves in effecting the screening, by which means the chaffing and screening are performed simultaneously. All other Fan-Mills require that wheat should be run through twice, to clean it thoroughly, while the Patent Fan Mill will chaff and screen wheat more effectually in one operation than other mills will in two operations, thereby saving half the time and labor required by old mills. The "Patent Fan Mill" will also clean all kinds of grain, such as rye, buckwheat, oats, corn, peas, beans, clover, timothy, and flax-seed, in one single operation. Oats and peas are separated by being run through the mill once.

Notwithstanding the labor and expense in bringing the Fan Mill to its present state of perfection, Mr. Grant is enabled to furnish the "Patent Fan Mill" at the same price that he has received for mills heretofore manufactured by him. Directions how to rig the mill for cleaning different kinds of grain, accompanying each mill.

Lansingburgh, August, 1845.

W. BROOKENS.



ORNAMENTAL GATE—Fig. 83.

LUTHER TUCKER, Esq.—I herewith send you a rude draft of a gate, which I should like to see in your *Cultivator*. It would add much to embellish the premises near a dwelling, but would be rather expensive to place here and there on a farm. The posts on which the gate hangs should be constructed of stones, as they are much more durable, and the gate is less liable to sag than when hung on wooden posts. The gate may be made of oak or ash, or almost any wood that will bend without breaking. The two end posts should be about 5 feet high and larger in diameter than the rest. The others should be about three inches in diameter and 3 feet high. The long poles are split about 5 feet from the base, and are tied with strong wire, to prevent them from splitting farther; then spread them 18 inches or more apart, as fancy directs. The lattice work may be made of smooth

slips of boards 1½ inches wide to be nailed to the poles on the inside.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Albany, July, 1845.

IMPROVEMENT OF HORSES.

There never was, in this county, so many fine foals in any one season, as there are now; and the cause, I think, may be attributed to the fact of a tax having been imposed on stallions—hence all the *scrubs* had to leave the turf, and farmers have had the advantage of breeding from the best sires. If this advantage is only pursued, and dams of good temper and qualities are alone allowed to breed, the improvement may become still more important.

FISTULA AND POLL EVIL.—The simplest, as well as readiest cure for these two diseases, that ever came to my knowledge, is common table salt. My neighbor, Mr. Ramsburg, took a horse a few years ago, that had a fistula, and after every other effort had been made to cure him, without the least effect, he threw into the ulcer a handful of salt, and the good effect was soon perceptible. The salt was repeated every day or two, and in a short time a cure was perfected.

Last summer, I had a mare that had the poll evil, and I cured her also with salt applied in the same way. I put however, a small bit of red precipitate in the wound, twice. Both animals are at this time well and serviceable.

GEORGE BLESSING.

Frederick county, Md., July, 1845.

FOOT-ROT (SO CALLED) IN SHEEP.

LUTHER TUCKER, Esq.—A late number of the Boston Cultivator contains an article on this subject from Mr. Jewett of Weybridge, Vermont, which induces me to send you this communication. The importance to the sheep-raising community of this whole continent to understand the nature and causes of the many diseases to which sheep are liable, is incalculable, and when well understood, they will be surprised to find the ease with which they can be cured, and in most instances prevented. When Mr. Jewett is informed that I was born and raised a shepherd, and that the little information I possess is the result of long and attentive practice, he will, I am sure, readily give me credit for the true intention with which I write, namely, to set him and others right, as to the true cause of, and remedy for, this (so called) disease, and not to find fault with him, or enter into any controversy about it; for I willingly admit that he gives evidence of some practice and observation, and that I believe it is only necessary to *direct* that observation to make him a valuable shepherd.

Properly speaking, there is no such *disease of itself*, as foot-rot. It is invariably the result of the neglect of another disease, simple and easy to cure, or the result of accident by a bruise of the foot in some way; and always evinced by a slight but visible lameness in whichever foot is injured. It is *not contagious, neither can it be communicated by inoculation*. I saw the latter tested myself by the late Mr. Field, father of the present able veterinary surgeon, of London, on a visit to an extensive flock-master in Leicestershire; and I think by the time you read this through, you will be convinced yourself as thoroughly as though you saw the experiment tried, of the impossibility of its being so communicated, inasmuch as foot-rot is not a disease of itself.

Sheep have a secretory outlet between the claws, peculiar to them, which is liable to become obstructed, and when obstructed for a few days the tender skin between the claws becomes red and inflamed, the sheep becomes lame on that foot, and more lame immediately after its first rising in the morning than at any other time of day, the inflammation making greater head-way while at rest during the night than at any other period. The watchful and observant shepherd will see the lame sheep at once on putting his flock up in the morning, and will apply the remedy, which is simple. First clean the claw by running your finger or thumb up and down through it, wet with your spittle, if you have no water convenient, then take out your bottle of spirits of turpentine and wash it well with your finger with that, let the sheep lie a few minutes until the claw is thoroughly dry, (I shall afterwards describe the simple mode of securing a sheep so as that it cannot get off its side until loosened by the shepherd,) and then rub between the claw a mixture of two parts tar and one part sheep's suet boiled together, well blended and let cool, which the shepherd should always have prepared and in a tin box to take out with him. This done let the sheep go to pasture again, and repeat the same dressing every second day until the sheep becomes well of the lameness, or until the skin breaks, which it sometimes will do in spite of the dressing, and assumes the nature and appearance of the disease called a scald, when you must then apply the liquid dressing described below. The scald is a disease of itself, though sometimes produced by the stoppage of the secretory outlet of the claws in the manner described above, is generally produced by very heavy dews, or a long continued series of humid weather, which predisposes the foot to this injury. It is as the other disease, first discovered by the shepherd from lameness, but at a different hour of the day. When the flock are first put up in the morning, the dew is heavy, is cooling to the foot, and washes between the claws clean, and though the scald has made its appearance, yet at that hour, the moisture prevents the friction of the parts from hurting and causing lameness, and it is not discovered until towards noon, when the dew is all gone, and between the claws becomes dry, and the friction commences to hurt and irritate the parts, and then the lameness becomes apparent. When this is the case the shepherd knows it is the scald,—he collects his

flock, catches the lame sheep, ropes them as it is termed, and lays them on their side. He then takes his wash, previously prepared, composed of two parts tar, and one of oil of turpentine well mixed together, and then slowly added and stirred in, one part of muriatic acid (spirit of salt) with after that four parts of blue vitriol, very finely powdered, to which add spirits of turpentine sufficient to make the whole, when well shaken up in a bottle, of a liquid consistency, so that the wash may be applied by dipping a feather into it, with which anoint the scalded parts with the feather. The bottle must be well shaken every time the feather is dipped in, and when the claws are dressed the sheep must then lay tied until the wash is perfectly dried in, and a sort of incrustation is formed on the scalded parts,—every second day is enough to dress. It sometimes occurs that notwithstanding every care this scald turns to a *sore*, and then it is, that it is called the foot-rot. The sore is produced generally by something getting in between the claws, such as a bit of gravel or hard clay, or struck by some substance that would produce extra irritation, proud flesh and sloughing. The treatment then is, if the sore extends either way to the horny substance, to pare it away to the healthy edge, then shake a little fine powdered loaf sugar on the part, which will entirely take away the proud flesh, and then after half an hour apply the wash, and when dry, loose the sheep to pasture. Care should be taken never to wrap the foot with a cloth, unless when the horny substance is taken away, and the part is left entirely bared to the ground, and then the one claw only should be bandaged; or if both are bared, *each claw should be separately bandaged*, to prevent greater friction of the parts, and to keep them the more cool. *Under this circumstance alone*, is a bandage on the foot of a sheep *ever admissible*, because it causes greater heat, and of course greater friction by keeping the claws bound together and not allowing them to spread. In this stage of the disease, it is necessary to dress every day, and it must be noticed, that the cool of the morning is the best hour for dressing, because the sheep in hot weather is much oppressed by being tied down on its side for the length of time, sometimes an hour or more, that the proper application of the dressing requires. It not unfrequently happens that sheep show lameness when you can neither see a scald, nor discover inflammation between the claws from the stoppage of the secretory outlet; and then the shepherd must look for the cause, by pressing and examining the hoof round, in the same way as the cause of lameness is sought for in the horse's hoof, and when discovered, the horny substance must be pared down to the part affected, and then the applications made as before described. In this case the lameness is produced from precisely the same causes, as the lameness in a horse's foot, by a bruise or hurt, or by the prick of a nail, or the gradual working-in of some sharp gravelly substance, which when discovered, and on opening matter is found, it is immediately pronounced as foot-rot in the sheep, but who ever heard of foot-rot under similar circumstances in the horse, or who ever supposed that the matter, if applied to another horse by inoculation, would produce lameness and a similar sore, in the same region, the foot? On this I deem any other remark unnecessary. No other help than the shepherd and his dog is required; nor no other instrument than a strong, sharp and well pointed two bladed knife, the large blade to pare down the hoof, the smaller one to cut out down to the part affected.

The way of tying down the sheep is as follows: get a soft rope made of tow with three plys, each ply as thick as your middle finger, five feet long; then splice both ends together and you have a double rope 2 feet 6 inches long, when you catch your sheep turn him gently on his side, then raise him to a sitting posture, having his head bent over under your stomach, take your rope and put it over the *left* hind leg just above the hock, catching the sinew, then give your rope two or three twists, so as to confine the leg, and pass it along the belly and on the side of the chest close under the elbow of the *right* fore leg or shoulder, and pass the other end over his head on to his neck, lay him down on his side, and there he must remain secure until you choose to loose him. When you go to

dress him or pare his hoofs, the easiest position for the sheep, and the handiest for the shepherd, is to place him in a sitting posture, the rope still left on until he is ready to be let out to pasture. The paring of the hoof can alone be well performed with a strong, sharp bladed knife, and is very simple; leave the bottom of the hoof as even as possible, so that the sheep may have an even and flat surface to stand upon, taking care of not cutting down to the quick; the toes should be left smooth and rounded, and no portion of the heel touched, unless some jaggy part is hanging.

The shepherd with his dog and crook, and 24 tow ropes on his shoulder, his knife and vials in his pocket, can go out and pen his sheep in any clean and convenient corner, catch the lame ones and rope them, let the rest of his flock out to pasture, and then in a very few hours dress his invalid sheep, and be prepared for his other work. Suppose the shepherd to have the charge of a flock of 1000 sheep, he must be very ignorant, or very careless, ever to require to use more than 12 or 18 out of his 24 ropes on any one day; there is no business at which a man is engaged, that "a stitch in time is more certain to save nine," than in herding a flock of sheep.

With much respect, I remain, dear sir,

Your humble serv't, GRAZIER.

Louisville, Ky., July, 1845.

A LETTER TO FARMERS.

MR. EDITOR—There is no portion of the "Empire State," or any other section that has come under my observation, where the agricultural population enjoy sufficient mutual thrift to prevent the frequent and painful contrast of a comfortable, or an elegant mansion, with poverty-stricken tenements, lacking not only the comforts, but the decencies of life. And these, in some instances, have been for twenty or thirty years, the abode of honest, hard-working men, whose health and strength have been sufficient to have earned all the necessities of life, educated their children, and reserved a generous portion for old age. And perhaps they have earned it, and because of their inability to keep it their neighbors instead of themselves have been enriched by their toil.

Whatever has been the cause of their destitution, whether it was a lack of calculation, temperance, or industry,—whether they have little or nothing, they must have a place which they call home, which you can help to make more comfortable. Do not see them wear away year after year in the same cheerless unvarying round. And do not hesitate to advise them when you know they are squandering the little they have earned, in foolish and unnecessary trading. And try to find them some employment, when they cannot get work elsewhere, and you will in a measure prevent them from contracting habits of idleness and dissipation, and save their families much suffering.

Little offices of kindness, such as giving them a fruit tree or a few choice seeds, offering your team to break them up a garden, (in turn for their labor,) lending them your agricultural paper, &c., &c., will make them feel that you do not consider them or their affairs beneath your notice, and may be the means of exciting their gratitude and ambition to profit by your advice and example.

I never take a ride of half a dozen miles in any direction, without feeling my comfort greatly abridged by the filthy and forlorn appearance, or the uncomfortable condition of most of the tenements inhabited by the poorer class of country laborers. Not unfrequently fastened upon the road-side, on the summit of a treeless hill, to be scorched by the blaze of a summer sun, and fanned by the wintry blast; or placed on stilts in a smoky swamp, a prey to musquitos and the ague, without well or cistern, wood-shed or garden, except perhaps a patch of potatoes which the children are kept from school to watch.

Every man who lives in the country and is able to work, whether he has a trade, or depends upon tilling his neighbors' ground for his support, can or ought to earn a comfortable home. And if he can have but an acre of ground with a snug warm cottage, (though it be of logs) he has sufficient space for all the conveniences

he needs, and may be as comfortable and happy as if he were the owner of thousands. And if he can be induced to add a few cheap embellishments, which will cost him nothing but his labor, such as whitewashing his buildings and fences, keeping a neat yard and garden, raising a few choice trees, vines, and flowers, his humble and limited possessions will form no unpleasant contrast with your spacious or splendid domains.

If our independent farmers would take a little more interest in the affairs of their poor neighbors, they might in a short time greatly ameliorate their condition, and improve the face of the country.

A FARMER'S WIFE.

Onondaga, N. Y., Aug. 1845.

CURE FOR THE BARBER'S ITCH.

MR. TUCKER—Perhaps the following recipe may be as useful to some of your readers as it has been to me, and I therefore communicate it for publication:

Take a tea-spoon even full of salt-petre with an equal quantity of salts, dissolve them in a tumbler of water and drink the same in the morning before breakfast, and continue to do so three mornings in succession before breakfast, then omit three mornings, and so repeat and omit three mornings, till nine doses are taken in the space of fifteen days.

The above named humor or disease I obtained at some barber's shop where I was shaved on my way from this place to New-York city, in April, 1843. I tried a great many prescriptions to no effect, and when I set out on my return, via the lakes in September following, my face, chin, and neck were grievously afflicted with running sores and hard tumors, attended with considerable fever. I was obliged to resort to poultices to allay the inflammation during the whole passage from Buffalo. A passenger on board the steamboat in which I came up the lakes, recommended the above, he having had a troublesome humor of the blood cured by it some years before. I had faith in the salt-petre as a purifier of the blood, and when I arrived at my own house I followed the prescription. The progress of the disease was checked at once—the itching subsided, the hard tumors gradually disappeared, and sores dried up in a few days after the last dose of salt-petre was taken. Some one remarked to me that the disease was hard to cure, and that it would be likely to break out again. In about six months it again made its appearance. I applied the same prescription. The disease soon disappeared, and has not shown itself since, although this was more than a year ago.

The salt-petre and salts are far from being a palatable dose, but they may be made more so, by wetting the mouth with and swallowing a small quantity of sharp vinegar, both before and after taking them.

It becomes all who get shaved in barbers' shops, or with other men's shaving utensils, to look to it that they do not get inoculated, nor inoculate themselves, with this or any other troublesome humor of the blood, and which in this instance stated was worse than an ordinary case of the small pox.

G. G. S.

Brunswick, Peoria Co., Illinois, July 24, 1845.

FILBERTS.—They do not require a very rich soil, but grow well in that which is rocky or gravelly. The ground is kept clean around the trees, which are placed about twelve feet apart. They are very carefully pruned, and one stem only is left to branch out a few inches above the ground; the branches are trained and pruned in the shape of a punch bowl, and are not allowed to run above four or five feet high; thus they will bear abundantly, and be very profitable. When the filberts are gathered, they are laid to dry in the sun, or under a shed exposed to the air. If they are well dried, they will keep good for several years.

Penny Cyclopaedia.

The above refers to England; but would not this tree succeed in the United States and prove profitable to the cultivators of it. It seems to me that some trials on the culture of it in this country, ought to be made, as also on the English walnut, so termed, which has proved profitable in some instances at least.

W. JENNISON.

THE STRAWBERRY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CULTIVATOR—I met with your Cultivator yesterday, and noticed with pleasure the just observations you have made on several occasions, on the character of the strawberry plant. Your plate of the blossoms,* should be republished yearly, at the period of blossoming. Cultivators will daily see the swelling of the perfect fruit of the one, and the total, or partial sterility of the other. The plate has one error. The blossoms are represented as of the same size. The staminate blossom, is always the larger blossom, and often double the size of the other.

I saw in a late horticultural paper, a flattering description of Codman's Seedling, speaking of it as a great bearer, fine flavor, and superior in size to all others, and lauding its great *variety of shape*. The measurement given averages about four inches in circumference, which is below the standard of many other varieties. The plant I have not seen, but the various *shapes* of the fruit, which the writer so much admires, convinces me it never will be valuable for a general crop. The fruit is of *various forms*, in consequence of its being a *staminate* plant, and *partially* defective in the *female* organs. It is barely possible that it is a pistillate plant, and the defect in form occasioned by the want of staminate plants near. It may prove a very valuable variety to cultivate with pistillate plants, as it will cause every one of those blossoms to produce a perfect fruit, and produce a partial crop of its own.

The Ross Phoenix is described in your work, as having leaves 5½ inches in diameter. Is there not a slip of the pen in this? I last spring, for the first and only time, saw this variety in blossom, in a small box. The leaf was not of unusual size. It was a blossom perfect in stamens, and the pistils more perfect than I have ever seen them, in any but a pistillate plant, except in one instance, and it will doubtless be valuable for impregnation; but if it is capable of perfecting all its fruit, it will be a prodigy, should the fruit be of large size. I do not believe in this, for the blossoms are not all perfect in both organs, or the fruit would not have a variety of shapes, which I am informed is the fact. It is time the question was settled.

In Cincinnati, where the male and female character of the plant is fully believed in by all market gardeners, a single individual has brought from his grounds 120 bushels to market in a single day; and towards the close of the market the finest fruit is sold as low as three cents per quart. The strawberry most cultivated for market, is the Old Hudson. I deem it one of the best flavored, and the most profitable for a general crop. It is of large size, and bears carriage. By itself, an acre would not produce even a defective berry, and the character of the plant not being generally understood, many have ceased to cultivate it. It is not known in Boston. Mr. Downing has not described it in his work, but in the place of it the English Hudson, which is an inferior fruit. I know that 50 years since it was cultivated in this State more than all others, and is still the favorite market fruit in Philadelphia.

In 1842, Mr. Hovey, as I discover by your paper, admitted my account of his seedling was true. That it was defective in its male organs, and required to be planted with staminate ones—in 1844, that he came out with a different doctrine,—that his original plant was perfect in both organs, but a few of the runners had become defective in the male or female organs, by high cultivation. A strange doctrine this. There is at times, by high cultivation, a disposition in flowers to become double. When cultivation changes the sexes of the strawberry (which it never has to my belief,) it will be by forcing out the defective male organs in the pistillate plant, and to increase, not destroy them in the staminate one. In favorable seasons, or by forcing, Kean's Seedling, and other staminate plants that are partially perfect in both organs, will have the pistils better developed than usual, and have the crop of fruit increased.

But my views are in opposition to the theory of your

very intelligent and observing horticulturist, Mr. Downing, and his opinion is entitled to the greater weight, as he is supported in his views, not only by Mr. Hovey, but by all the intelligent and thorough-bred Scotch and English gardeners I have ever met with, who all contend that Kean's Seedling, was a great and uniform bearer in England and Scotland, and that all their other varieties were there perfect, in both organs, and uniformly productive. High and numerous as these authorities are, I do not believe one word of it. In stiff soils, Kean's Seedling will bear better than in a light dry one. There is no soil or climate in which it will perfect all its blossoms. If Mr. Downing's theory be true, that all natural plants are perfect in both organs, but that a few become defective in the one organ or the other, by high cultivation, how comes it, that in your field of natural plants, you have barren and bearing patches?—patches barren from being all staminate or pistillate—patches prolific from the presence of both. If his doctrine be true, why is the pistillate blossom always much smaller than the staminate? Why is it, that in raising from seed (and surely seedlings are natural plants,) that in general, there are as many staminate as pistillate plants, and not one (as all our western gardeners will tell you, who raise seedlings by the thousand,) perfect in both organs, and capable, by itself, of bearing a full crop of fruit? And further, if Mr. Downing's theory be true, how is it that our market gardeners not only tell the male from the female when in bloom, but at all seasons, from the stem and leaf, and even learn their children of 10 years of age to do it? If Mr. Hovey will send one of his perfect seedlings to Mr. Wilder, President of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, and he, after a trial, shall pronounce it capable of bearing a full crop, I will give \$50 for the plant. It cannot be made to produce even a single perfect fruit. For 20 years I kept the Hudson in a bed by itself, to make new beds from. It increased yearly by runners. During the whole period not a plant changed its character, or produced even a defective berry, unless as a matter of curiosity I placed a staminate plant near. I never saw a white, or a monthly variety, that was not perfect in both organs. The question will soon be settled, by further experiments of Mr. Downing himself. He concedes the old doctrine, against which I have been warring, (that all varieties were perfect in both organs, and no necessity of selecting plants to insure a crop) is not true. He states my practice to be indispensable, unless persons are careful to select what he calls "natural plants." "But if these are selected," says he, "every blossom will perfect its fruit." I deem one male (staminate) plant, necessary to ten or twelve female (pistillate.) If his theory be true, an acre on his plan will be far less troublesome than mine, and produce one-tenth more fruit. Its truth will be at once tested, for he will in future, of course, supply customers with all "natural plants." Heretofore he could not have been aware of it, as he sent me four or five kinds, (the Bishop was one) and they were all staminate, and bore but little fruit. If he will send to Mr. Jackson of Cincinnati, one dozen of each of the following *natural* plants, Mr. Jackson will plant them separate, and when growing will select the best plant of each, and let them form runners. If he shall report all the blossoms perfect in both organs, and bearing the usual sized fruit, I will pay him \$5 for each variety:—True Kean's Seedling; Hovey's Seedling; Old Hudson; Bishop; Methven Scarlet; Brewer's Emperor; Warren's Seedling; Myatt's Pine; Swainstone Seedling; Myatt's Eliza. Most of these I have taken from Mr. Downing's work, never having seen them. Mr. Downing has.

Yours, respectfully, N. LONGWORTH.

P. S. In the grape and strawberry only, would I venture decidedly to differ with Mr. Downing. To these plants I have devoted more attention than he has.

Newark, N. J., July 31st, 1845.

PEACH TREES are more liable to escape frosts, when planted on the north or west sides of buildings, the shade from the south sun preventing the too early starting of the young fruit buds, and their consequent injury by subsequent frosts; and the latter shading them from the morning sun on frosty mornings.

* Cultivator, vol. 9, p. 165.



ALBANY, SEPTEMBER, 1845.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS have been received, since our last, from F. I. F., J. P. Norton, D. G. Mitchell, Grazier, G. G. S., Solon Robinson, G. M. Eichelberger, Eaton, Buel Warner, J. Bowman, C., Jno. H. Dent, W. Brookens, N. Longworth, John Crary, A. Dey, J. W. Seeley, S. W., A. L. Bingham, Senex, S. Widney, W. R., B. H., Jno. Girdwood, J. D. F., An Old Farmer, T. C. Peters, A Subscriber, E. N. Horsford, Wm. N. Ford.

Answers to several inquiries, as well as several communications intended for this No., are necessarily deferred till next month.

MONTHLY NOTICES.

OUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.—We have the pleasure of presenting our readers this month, with the first of a series of "NOTES OF TRAVEL IN IRELAND," from the pen of a gentleman abundantly qualified, from his practical knowledge of the agriculture and rural economy of both countries, to give peculiar interest to his "notes," from which we think our readers may safely anticipate much gratification. The letter from Mr. GIRDWOOD, of Scotland, in continuation of his series of essays for the Cultivator, was received too late for this month. We think ourselves most fortunate in being favored with the contributions of Mr. GIRDWOOD, and "F. I. F.," as well as those of Messrs. NORTON, HORSFORD and MITCHELL, whose Letters have given an interest to our pages which they could not otherwise have obtained.

COLMAN'S TOUR, PART IV.—Our readers will be glad to learn that the IVth Part of this work is now in press at Boston. It will be issued about the 10th of next month.

AGUIRRE WHEAT.—By reference to the doings of the New-York State Ag. Society, it will be seen that Mr. TOWNSEND of this city, has presented to the society a parcel of wheat of the above name. The specimen was superior in whiteness and weight to any we have before seen. It has been distributed among the members of the society, with a request that it be carefully tried and reports furnished of its product, &c.

NEW VARIETY OF SWEET CORN.—In our January No. we published a letter from Judge DARLING, of Ct., describing a kind of sweet corn which he had produced by an intermixture of the common sweet corn with a very early variety of the Canadian yellow. Judge D. sent us a few ears of the new variety, which we distributed among the farmers and gardeners of this vicinity. Yesterday, Aug. 21, a man brought us an ear which had been raised from this, which is ripe enough to gather for seed. We cannot tell the date of planting, but it was not early in the season. The same man planted several other kinds of sweet corn at the same time, but Judge D.'s new kind was several weeks earlier than any of them.

MAPLE SUGAR.—We have received from Mr. L. O. STEVENS a very handsome and excellent sample of maple sugar manufactured by Mr. JOSEPH M. STEVENS, of Hardwick, Caledonia county, Vermont. Mr. Stevens, we are informed, made the past season 4500 lbs., of superior quality. We agree with Mr. S., that "we see no reason why this sugar may not in every way equal the foreign article in flavor, whiteness, and most certainly in purity." He states that the process of manufacturing sugar of this quality is simple and easily explained by the manufacturer.

SHEPHERD'S DOGS.—S. M. BELL, West Alexander, Washington county, Penn., informs us that he can furnish a few of these dogs—"price \$10 per pair for puppies—grown dogs, price in proportion." A few of these valuable animals, of pure blood, can also be had on ap-

plication at the office of the Farmer's Cabinet, Philadelphia—price \$5 each.

POTATOES FOR FATTENING ANIMALS.—We have repeatedly expressed a favorable opinion of potatoes for fattening stock,—an opinion, which though opposed to the theories of some, we believe to be based on fact. The following extract from a letter of a gentleman of extensive practice as a farmer, corresponds generally with our own experience.—"Those persons who are of opinion that potatoes cannot fatten either hogs or cattle, are very much mistaken indeed. I know of no food I would prefer to fatten hogs upon than *cooked* potatoes, mixed either with a little meal or bruised oats, mashed and made into balls as large as a man's head, and laid on a shelf for twenty-four hours, to become a *little* sour. It will produce firm and transparent meat, and lard of a very superior quality, and at a cheaper rate than corn at 12½ cents per bushel, fed in the ears."

AGRICULTURE AMONG THE CHEROKEES.—We are happy to observe the various indications of improvement in the domestic arts among these people. We learn that they have lately organized an Agricultural Society, and are to hold an exhibition of stock, &c. For several years past, we have had from forty to fifty subscribers to the Cultivator among them. They publish a very good paper, the *Cherokee Advocate*; but which, we are sorry to say, we do not receive regularly. Will the publisher have the goodness to see that it is punctually sent us?

DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—This spirited and popular society holds its exhibition at Wilmington on the same days of our State Show at Utica. We regret this collision, as it will prevent many from visiting both shows, who would doubtless have done so, had they been held on separate days. We presume, however, that our Delaware friends will have no lack of spectators to witness their display of the products of the soil and the work of the hands. Jonathan Roberts, Esq., of Pennsylvania, and Dr. Muse, of Maryland, are to deliver addresses.

PEAT AND MARL.—Mr. HENRY REYNOLDS, of Greenfield Centre, Saratoga co., has left us some specimens of peat and marl, taken from his farm. The peat appears to be a good article, and may be made valuable in composting with animal manures, or mixing with soils deficient in carbonaceous or vegetable matter. The marl is similar to what is found in places in this State underlying beds of peat. It is what is called fresh-water shell-marl. When applied to soils, its good effects are not always immediate, but in the course of a few months it moulders down like ashes, and improves the texture of the soil, as well as promotes vegetation.

HOVEY'S STRAW CUTTERS.—We would call attention to the advertisement of this machine to be found in this number. It will be noticed that Mr. H. has considerably reduced the price of his cutters. Perhaps there never was a season, which, from the shortness of the hay and other forage crops, seemed to call for the practice of the utmost economy in feeding, so much as the present. Experience has shown that there may be a great saving by cutting and mixing various kinds of fodder, and that with a little attention and labor, and with a small quantity of meal, shorts, bran, fox roots, straw, and such qualities of hay as are not usually considered valuable, may be made to afford stock a healthy support through the winter.

DURHAM CATTLE.—The advertisement of GEO. VAIL, Esq., in this No. is worthy the particular attention of those wishing to obtain stock of this description. Several of the animals, it will be seen, were got by Mr. V.'s imported bull *Wellington*, and others by *Meteor*, which is acknowledged by all who have seen him, to be a bull of uncommon excellence.

CORRECTION.—A slight error occurred in our notice of Mr. Albott's horse *Consternation*, in the July No. He won the £100 at *three* years old, instead of at four, as we stated, and has made one or more races since the accident to his leg.

The attention of Hop Growers, is invited to the advertisement of Mr. RYCKMAN in this paper.

EXHIBITION AND FAIR
OF THE
NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

From all we see and hear, we confidently expect that the Exhibition of the State Agricultural Society, which is to take place at Utica on the 16th, 17th, and 18th of this month, will be at least equal in interest to any one which has previously been held in the country. We presume the collection of people will be very large, and have reason to think there will be no lack of agricultural and horticultural productions, or of the evidences of mechanical skill. The show of stock of all kinds will unquestionably be large, and may be expected to sustain the reputation of our farmers in this respect. Utica, it will be recollected, is the centre of the great dairy district of the state, and hence we may expect a richer display of butter and cheese than has been made before; and in connexion with this department, we shall also look for a better show of *milk cows*, the most important stock for that region, as well as for a large part of the country.

Excellent arrangements have been made at Utica in relation to the various departments of the exhibition, and we are fully satisfied that the citizens of that flourishing city are determined to do all in their power to promote the interests of the Society on this great occasion.

Mr. QUINCY, of Massachusetts, who has consented to deliver the address, is a gentleman well known as being warmly devoted to the advancement of agriculture and all the industrial arts, and is not unused to speaking on such subjects. Having had the pleasure of listening to him on a like occasion, we venture the assurance that no reasonable anticipations will be disappointed.

We call particular attention to the list of awarding committees, and the regulations in reference to the exhibition as given below.

REGULATIONS FOR THE FAIR.

All members of the Society, and all who may become members at the time of the Fair, by the payment of \$1.00, will be furnished with BADGES which will admit the person and his wife and children under 21 years of age, to the exhibition at all times during the Fair. Tickets to admit a single person, 12½ cents.

Members will be allowed to enter in carriages with their families, but no hacks or other public conveyances will be permitted to enter except when the inmates are members of the Society, without paying a dollar for each entrance, and the inmates, if not members, to furnish themselves with tickets.

Gentlemen may become members and obtain badges at the stage office of J. BUTTERFIELD & Co., and at the bookstores of I. TIFFANY, G. TRACEY, and BENNETT, BACKUS & HAWLEY, Genesee-street, Utica, or at the Business Office, at the show-yard.

All exhibitors at the Fair, must become members of the Society, and have their articles entered at the Business Office before taking them into the enclosure.

The trial of Plows will take place on Tuesday, the 16th—consequently all competitors must have their plows on the ground on the morning of that day.

All those who intend to compete for the premiums on agricultural implements, butter and cheese, sugar, cocoons, silk, &c., should have their specimens on the ground on the 16th, that they may be deposited in their appropriate places, and the rooms suitably arranged on the day previous to the Fair.

No premiums will be paid on animals or articles taken away before the close of the Fair.

Every thing intended for the exhibition, must be on the ground at or before nine o'clock, on the morning of Wednesday, the 17th.

Animals and other articles offered for exhibition, must be labelled with the owner's name and residence at full length.

THE COMMITTEES TO AWARD PREMIUMS.

The several Committees to award Premiums, are re-

quested to report themselves at the Society's room, at BAGG'S HOTEL, on Tuesday evening, the 16th, or at the Business office, on the show grounds previous to ten o'clock on Wednesday morning, the 17th, after which all vacancies will be filled, and the committees will enter upon their duties at twelve o'clock.

The Judges are requested to furnish their awards to the Recording Secretary by twelve o'clock on Thursday, that a list may be made out from which the Treasurer can pay the prizes immediately on the reports being read from the stand.

The Judges will not award the prizes offered, unless in their opinion the animals or articles exhibited are worthy of the premiums.

Prize animals and implements at the previous exhibitions, will be allowed to compete for the prizes; but they must receive a higher prize, or in a different class, to entitle them to a premium. Should the same premium heretofore given them be awarded, they will receive a certificate to that effect instead of the prize.

No viewing committee, with the exception of the Committee on Discretionary Premiums, shall award any discretionary premium, without the previous permission of the Executive Board, expressed through the President.

The annual address will be delivered, under the large tent, at 3 o'clock on Thursday afternoon, by Hon. JOSIAH QUINCY, Jr., of Boston.

Immediately after the address, the reports of the Committees to award the Premiums will be read, and the premiums paid at the Treasurer's office. The Treasurer will also be in attendance at the Society's Room, at Bagg's Hotel, on Thursday evening, and on Friday, for the purpose of paying Premiums.

On Thursday afternoon, the PREMIUM ANIMALS will be exhibited on the grounds, separate from the others, with cards showing the premiums awarded to each animal, so that the public may have an opportunity of viewing the animals which have been adjudged worthy of the Premiums of the Society.

TRANSPORTATION OF STOCK.

Arrangements have been made with the different Rail Road Companies, whose officers, with their usual liberality, have agreed to transport, *free of charge*, all animals and articles designed for exhibition at the Fair.

Gentlemen who intend to send their stock by the Rail Road, must give notice at least one week previous to the Fair, to LUTHER TUCKER, Albany; M. D. BURNET, Syracuse; J. M. SHERWOOD, Auburn; L. B. LANGWORTHY, Rochester; or L. F. ALLEN, Buffalo; so that the necessary preparations may be made by the companies for their transportation.

Extra trains of cars, both east and west of Utica, will be run, in which visitors to the Fair will be carried for a sum not exceeding half the usual rates on the roads. Of their times of starting, notice will be given as soon as the arrangements are completed. The Packet Boat Companies have made arrangements to facilitate the conveyance of visitors, at reasonable rates.

It is expected that the operations of the MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH will be exhibited on the grounds during the Fair. It is intended by the proprietors of this work, to have it ready for operation from Utica to Little Falls, a distance of twenty miles.

Articles designed for exhibition at the Fair, may be directed to the care of FARWELL & HARRINGTON, Utica, who will take charge of them as directed by the owners.

JUDGES TO AWARD THE PRIZES.

Cattle, Class I.—James Gowen, Philadelphia; J. S. Skinner, New-York; Thos. Hollis, Gilbertsville.

Cattle, Classes II, III, IV.—Adam Fergusson, Watertown, C. W.; F. Ingersoll, Vernon; D. D. Campbell, Schenectady.

Cattle, Classes V, and VI.—J. R. Speed, Caroline; Wm. Fuller, Skaneateles; Aaron Petrie, Little Falls.

Working Oxen.—Sanford Howard, Albany; Andrew J. Bell, Lairdsville; Squire M. Brown, Elbridge.

Steers.—E. P. Beck, Sheldon; Clift Eames, Rutland; Israel Boies, Homer.

Fat Cattle and Fat Sheep.—Ela Merriam, Leyden; Lester Barker, Clinton; P. N. Rust, Syracuse.

Stallions.—J. M. Sherwood, Auburn; Wm. Jones, Queens Co.; Edward Long, Cambridge.

Mares and Colts.—Anthony Van Bergen, Coxsackie; Willard Ives, Watertown; F. P. Bellinger, Herkimer.

Matched Horses.—Wm. Salisbury, Leeds; Duncan Robinson, Fishkill; H. S. Woodruff, Auburn.

Sheep, Class I.—W. A. S. North, Duanesburg; Robt. Musson, Gilbertsville; Jas. Parker, Jr., Trenton.

Sheep, Class II.—S. Waite, Jr., Montgomery; W. H. Sotham, Albany; Lyman Sherwood, Auburn.

Sheep, Class III.—Chester Buck, Lowville; Samuel Cheever, Stillwater; D. R. Gill, Henderson.

Sheep, Class IV.—J. P. Beekman, Kinderhook; J. M. Ellis, Onondaga Hill; M. Y. Tilden, New-Lebanon.

Swine.—L. B. Langworthy, Rochester; George Webb, Pamela; Hiram Hopkins, Cortlandville.

Poultry.—C. N. Bement, Albany; T. H. Hyatt, Rochester; Storrs Barrows, South Trenton.

Vegetables.—D. B. Fuller, Hyde Park; B. W. Dwight, Clinton; H. L. R. Sandford, Volney.

Plows.—Geo. Geddes, Tyler; C. C. Dennis, Auburn; M. L. Brainerd, Rome.

Waggons, Harrows, Cultivators, Fanning Mills, Machines for cutting corn stalks, Horse Powers and Threshing Machines, Drill-Barrows, and Straw Cutters.—H. S. Randall, Cortlandville; G. W. Patterson, Westfield; Myron Adams, East Bloomfield.

All other Agricultural Implements.—Pomeroy Jones, Lairdsville; John Williams, Jr., Salem; T. R. Hussey, Auburn.

Butter.—E. W. Bateman, Venice; Z. Barton Stout, Richmond Hill; Elijah Rhoades, Manlius.

Cheese.—T. C. Peters, Darien; Thomas Burch, Little Falls; Harrison Blodgett, Denmark.

Sugar.—O. Hungerford, Watertown; E. Mack, Ithaca; Geo. B. Rowe, Canastota.

Silk.—Alex. Walsh, Lansingburgh; Samuel Thompson, Utica; John Walsh, Albany.

Domestic Manufactures.—Judge Conkling, Auburn; Roswell Randall, Cortlandville; Le Grand Cannon, Troy.

Fruits.—J. J. Thomas, Macedon; Chas. Downing, Newburgh; P. Barry, Rochester.

Flowers.—Prof. Jackson, Schenectady; Benj. Hodges, Buffalo; Charles Tracey, Utica.

Plowing Match.—Lewis F. Allen, Buffalo; N. S. Wright, Vernon Centre; E. Marks, Tyler; Wm. Otley, Oaks Corners; John Johnston, Geneva.

Miscellaneous and Discretionary Premiums.—Thomas Farrington, Owego; B. N. Huntington, Rome; Joel Rathbone, Albany; J. J. Viele, Lansingburgh; Oliver Phelps, Canandaigua.

NEW-YORK STATE AG. SOCIETY.

The meeting of the Executive Committee of the State Ag. Society for August, was held at the Society's Room in Albany, on the 14th—Present,

B. P. JOHNSON, of Oneida, President.

E. P. PRENTICE, Vice-President, Albany.

ALEXANDER WALSH, Rensselaer.

GEO. VAIL, Rensselaer.

THOMAS HILLHOUSE, Treasurer.

LUTHER TUCKER, Rec. Sec'y.

Letters were read from Hon. Wm. H. Seward, Auburn; Hon. Luther Bradish, New-York; Hon. Josiah Quincy, Jr., Boston; Isaiah Townsend, Albany; James Gowen, Esq., Philadelphia; James S. Wadsworth, Genesee; Francis Rotch, London; James Taylor, Birmingham; Hon. John Savage, Salem; Lewis F. Allen, Esq., Buffalo; Paris Barber, Homer.

The Board then proceeded to complete the list of Judges to award the Premiums at the next State Fair, a list of which is given above.

TRANSPORTATION OF STOCK.

The Committee on this subject reported that arrangements had been made with the different Rail Road Companies, whose officers with their usual liberality, had agreed to transport *free of charge*, all animals and articles designed for exhibition at the Fair.

They farther reported, that extra trains would be run, in which visitors to the Fair, will be carried for a sum not exceeding half the usual rates on the roads. Of their times of starting, notice will be given, as soon as the arrangements are completed.

SPLENDID SAMPLE OF WHEAT.

The Recording Secretary presented the following letter, with the accompanying sack of wheat:—

L. TUCKER, Esq., Rec. Sec'y N. Y. S. Ag. Society:

Sir—I send you for the State Agricultural Society, a sack of the wheat considered the best grown in old Castile, and sent me lately by a friend in the North of Spain.

The Talavera wheat, already familiar to English and American farmers, is also a Spanish variety. It came originally from Estremadura, a province in the south of old Castile, and of a milder more uniform climate. The Castilian wheat, it may therefore be inferred, will prove a hardier species.

I have sent to Gen. Rawson Harmon a similar sack, and proposed to him, should its introduction be accomplished under his experienced and enlightened management, to name this variety the *Aguirre wheat*, after D. Macsimo de Aguirre, our excellent Consul at Bilbao, to whose good offices I am indebted for the specimens I have received.

Gen. Harmon remitted me last winter, for a friend in France, several varieties grown under his care at Wheatland. Ten kernels taken indiscriminately from these, weighed,

of White Provence, (French,) $8\frac{1}{2}$ grains.

Wheatland Red, $5\frac{1}{2}$ "

Virginia May, 5 "

Soul's Red, 5 4-10 "

Soul's White, 5 4-10 "

Talavera, 7 "

Improved White Flint, *.... 5 "

The "Aguirre" weighed, $8\frac{1}{2}$ "

A person as little acquainted practically with the tillage of wheat as the writer, would infer from the above table that a certain weight of French Provence, white, or "Aguirre wheat," would furnish a greater amount of flour, and less amount of bran, than an equal weight of either of the other varieties.

The bread made from the wheat of old Castile, I have never seen surpassed in whiteness. In Spain, as you are perhaps aware, this universal article of consumption is not leavened.

What I send is for distribution, if you think worth while. I will seal up four or five pounds which might be kept in the rooms of the Society, as a standard whereby to determine the changes the wheat may undergo by culture in America. Respectfully, yours,

ISAIAH TOWNSEND.

P. S. I have just had weighed a half-peck of the wheat. The weight was 8 lbs. 9 oz., avoirdupois. This would give $68\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. to the bushel. As this exceeds by $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. the heaviest wheat (Hungarian) in Lawson's Museum, (Vide his *Agriculturist's Manual*, p. 14,) I think it wants verifying by a better balance than that I used, the scales of a corner grocery. I. T.

On motion of the President,

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be tendered to Mr. Townsend for the splendid specimen of wheat accompanying the above letter; and that the same be distributed to members of the Society, with a request that they make trial of the same, and report the result to the Society.

The Rec. Secretary presented a copy of the 9th vol. of the *Farmer's Cabinet*, from the publisher, J. TATEM, Esq., for which the thanks of the society were voted.

The President was requested to procure a windlass and dynamometer, for the trial of plows.

The Rec. Secretary and Treasurer were directed to procure the necessary badges and tickets for the ensuing Fair.

* These weighed respectively, after being soaked 36 hours in a strong solution sulphate ammonia, 11— $6\frac{3}{4}$ — $6\frac{3}{4}$ — $6\frac{1}{2}$ — $6\frac{3}{4}$ —9— $7\frac{1}{2}$ grains. I have not soaked any of the Castilian variety.

CONNECTICUT CHEESE DAIRIES.

In our late excursion through Connecticut, we were glad to find satisfactory evidence that the character of that state for the manufacture of good cheese, is still maintained. The two principal cheese neighborhoods which we visited were Goshen and Winchester. The first of these towns became famous for its cheese at an earlier period than any other section of the country, but though the place still holds a prominent rank in this respect, we are inclined to think, from what we saw and heard, that for general reputation, "the sceptre has departed from" Goshen, and is now held by Winchester.

From Mr. A. Miles, of Goshen, a large dealer in cheese, we obtained some facts in regard to the quantity annually made there. The average quantity exported from the town, is about 500,000 pounds. The quantity of butter sold, is small, being only about 40,000 pounds per year. Cheese has fallen much in price within a few years, owing to the increased quantity thrown into market. It sells this season, while new, at five cents per pound—at home, or within the town. The average quantity made per cow is not known, but may be estimated at 300 to 350 lbs. Some good dairies make much more. Mr. Lawton sold last year an average of 403 lbs. per cow, and with what he kept for his own use, probably made 425 lbs. per cow.

Mr. Lewis M. Norton, of Goshen, was the first manufacturer of what is called *Pine-apple* cheese, in America. He commenced making this article in 1808. He had at this time no knowledge of the mode in which it received its peculiar form and qualities. He saw some which came from England, and set himself to work to imitate it. His first trial succeeded so well that he was encouraged to persevere, and he has continued to progress, until at this time, he has so perfected the whole process, from the "running up" of the curd, to the sale of the cheese, as to entirely distance all competition.

Mr. Norton is this year using the curd from ninety cows, for making pine-apple cheese. The principal portion of this curd is bought of his neighbors, for which he pays them the same price per pound that common new milk cheese brings, which is five cents this season; so that those who sell him their curd, save all the labor of pressing and curing their cheese, besides gaining considerable from the greater weight of the curd.

The curd is kept for twenty-four hours before it is made into cheese. The advantage of this, is supposed by Mr. Norton to be, that a degree of fermentation takes place, which being checked at a critical time, by the cutting of the curd, preparatory to its being formed into cheese, is not renewed after it comes from the press; thus preventing the defect of the cheese being hoven or blown.

The curd is rapidly cut into pieces of not more than a fourth of an inch square, with a machine invented by Albert Loomis, Torrington, Ct., which Mr. N. prefers to any curd-cutter he has seen. After being cut, the curd is put in a cheese cloth, placed in warm water, and the temperature gradually raised by pouring in water that is still warmer, till it reaches 105 degrees, by the thermometer. This does not *scald* the curd, which according to the practice of the best cheese-makers in England and in this country, is, we think, discountenanced. The curd is next cooled, by adding cold water, to the temperature of 88 degrees, when the whole of the water is drawn from the vat, and the curd weighed, and salted with the finest kind of table salt—four ounces of salt to ten pounds of curd—and after being well stirred is put in the press, where it remains twenty-four hours, or a longer time, as is convenient, as it takes no hurt by remaining forty-eight hours. The curd is weighed immediately over the tub, being drawn up by a pulley, and when this is done, is again lowered into the tub, where it is salted.

The cheeses are pressed in molds, made of sound blocks of oak timber, about twenty inches long and ten inches square. They are sawed lengthwise through the middle, and each half is carved or worked out so as to give the general shape of a pine-apple—one half in each part. From the cavity to the upper end of the block, a

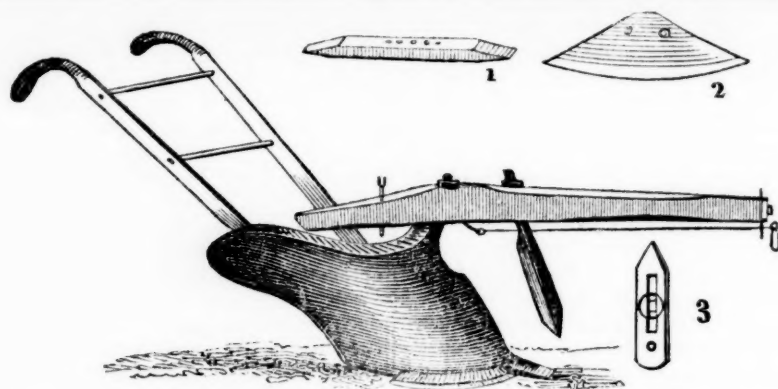
groove is cut in each part, which, when the parts are placed together, makes a round channel of about two and a half inches in diameter, for passing the curd into the mold. When the two parts of the block are put together in such a manner that the cavities match each other, and are strongly keyed into a frame, they form the mold for pressing the curd. The pressure is applied by means of a screw, operating on an upright, round piece of wood, which fits the channel in the block, and as it is forced down compresses the curd in the mold. The presses are very compact and strong, and appear to answer the purpose well. He has sixty-eight of them, and makes twenty-eight cheeses per day, weighing when dried five pounds each. When the cheeses are taken from the press, they are trimmed, and then placed in nets and hung in water of the temperature of 130 degrees. This is to soften the outside, that it may receive the desired impression from the net, which is done by taking them from the water while enveloped in the nets, placing them in a frame and straining the nets tightly over them by means of screws. This indents the threads of the net into the cheese in such a manner as to give them the external appearance of the fruit from which they are named. After this operation the cheeses are hung up in the nets from three to five weeks, for the outside to harden, and are then set on shelves having suitable hollows or concavities for the cheeses to rest on. In the centre of each concavity, a hole two inches in diameter is cut through the shelf, the more freely to admit air to the cheese, and to allow any liquid which may come from it, to run off. The nets used for the cheese are made of three-threaded flax-twine, and the manufacture of them costs, exclusive of the material, about 5 cents each. They will last three or four years.

Mr. Norton sells his cheese in New-York, Baltimore, and other southern cities. It usually nets him about ten cents per pound, after deducting commissions. How much greater are the actual profits derived from this kind of cheese than are obtained from other kinds, we cannot tell. Mr. Norton has evidently incurred great expense in his fixtures and in the time and study he has spent in bringing the manufacture of the article to such complete perfection, and this ought, in justice, to secure him some corresponding advantages. He, however, makes no secret of any of the discoveries or improvements which his protracted and indefatigable labors have effected; but with a highly commendable liberality, freely permits the most minute examination of his systematic operations.

At Winchester, we were obligingly furnished with many facts in regard to dairying and other agricultural branches, by Messrs. S. & L. Hurlbut. These gentlemen purchase yearly 500,000 pounds of cheese, and are perhaps more widely known, from their long experience as dealers in this article, than any other men in the country. Mr. L. Hurlbut took us to several of the noted dairy farmers, among whom was Mr. Norris Coe, of Winchester, whose cheese is considered of the very nicest quality, and commands a quick sale in the market, at as high a price as is brought by any of the choice kinds of imported cheese. He usually obtains from sixteen to eighteen cents per pound, by the quantity, and it retails in New-York and the southern cities, at from twenty to twenty-five cents per pound.

We are unable to give the particulars of Mr. Coe's mode of making cheese. He thinks its superior excellence is attributable to peculiar management, which, being the result of a discovery of his own, he feels warranted in not divulging to the public, for the present. We however, saw the cheese in all its stages, from the curd just ready for the press, to that which was two years old. Some of the latter we tasted, and must acknowledge that it was superior to almost any other we have met with.

We noticed here that everything pertaining to the dairy department, betokened the practice of uncommon neatness. The cheese-room, instead of emitting a rank, unpleasant odor, as is in many cases observable the moment the door is opened, was so sweet and agreeable that we were prompted to ask whether spices had not been used there, but were assured that nothing of the



THE DOLPHIN SELF-SHARPENING, OR "MARYLAND PLOW."—(Fig. 84.)

Explanation of the cut. Fig. 1, the point, five-eighths of an inch thick, one and a half-inch wide, and eighteen inches long. Fig. 2, reversible share, made either of wrought or cast iron. Fig. 3, the clevis, setting perpendicularly on the end of the beam.

This plow has been lately invented, and is kept for sale by Messrs. R. SINCLAIR JR. & Co., of Baltimore. It is highly recommended by those who have used it, and its construction and operation are thus described: "It is made both with left and right hand mould boards, and combines a most perfect self-sharpening principle. The points are made of steel bars, which may be reversed at least a dozen times, thus being equal in durability to a dozen ordinary points. The share may be made either of cast or wrought iron, which is also self-sharpening. The coulter of this plow is novel—instead of a single it has a double edge. The clevis or draught tackle is perfect, quite unique, and prevents the possibility of breaking the beam by sudden jerks; may be shifted to or from the land, and set deeper or shallower with the utmost precision and dispatch."

kind had been brought into the apartment. Great care is also taken to keep the cheese in a cool and even temperature. So much attention is paid to this particular, that a perfectly dark room is constructed in the centre of another room, into which the cheese is placed as soon as it becomes sufficiently dry, and is there kept till sold. The cheeses weigh when dried, about eight pounds each.

Whether Mr. Coe's "art and mystery" of cheese-making, is, after all, anything more than a punctilious observance of well-known rules, at the head of which is *cleanliness*, we know not, but will venture the opinion that a like practice of these rules by others, would be found of great advantage.

GARGET IN COWS.

This is a disease affecting the udders of cows. It appears to be caused by milk remaining too long in the bag, which becoming coagulated there, produces inflammation, and swellings, with hard tubercles. If not counteracted, ulceration ensues, and the disease results in a greater or less permanent injury to the bag. In most cases it affects at first but one teat, or one quarter of the bag only, the use of which is frequently lost; in other instances the injury extends to one-half, and sometimes to the whole udder, destroying the secretive glands. Great milkers are most subject to it, though it is thought to be more common in some districts than others. If this is so, it may be owing to the nature of the herbage—some plants necessary to the health of the cow may be wanting. It is a common belief in many parts of the country, that the *poke-weed*, sometimes called "cocum," and in some sections, "garget," is a complete antidote to this disease. It is certain that cows which have free access to this plant, will sometimes eat the tender shoots and leaves; and this may account for the fact that cows are, (so far as our observation extends,) comparatively exempt from garget in districts where poke-weed grows spontaneously.

As a medicine for cows affected with garget, we have never known anything so good as the root of poke-weed. It may be given by being cut in small pieces and fed to the cow mixed with meal or bran; or it may be given by splitting a potatoe, (a long one is preferable,) putting a thin piece of the root between the two halves, and letting the cow take the whole together from the hand. A couple of ounces of the fresh root may be given to a cow per day without injury, and in the early stages of the disease, two or three doses in connection with proper milking, and bathing the bag, (if much inflamed,)

with cold water, will generally effect a visible change for the better.

In sections where from frost and snow it would be difficult to get the root in the winter season, a supply should be dug in the fall, cut in pieces and dried.

In some cases much good has been derived from a *seaton* or rowel, made by inserting a piece of poke root in the dew-lap, just in front of the brisket. An incision an inch or two in length, is made with a knife through the pendent skin, the folds of which are then separated in a downward direction, with a stick of hard wood of the size of the little finger, having a round and rather blunt point, and a piece of the root as large as the opening will admit, is pushed in. The contraction of the skin will generally be sufficient to hold it, but a single stitch with a strong needle and thread, will be sure to keep it from coming out. In a short time the seaton will occasion a large swelling, from which, if it is properly kept open, there will be discharged a considerable quantity of matter; and this seldom fails to relieve the bag, provided inflammation has not already proceeded so far in that organ that suppuration has commenced.

Our venerable correspondent, "O. P.," of Stockbridge, Mass., mentions a case of garget or "swelled bag" in a heifer, which was cured by giving *poke-root tea*. Describing the case he says—"that the bag was so tender that she would not let the calf suck—she would not eat the cocum-mess—and all attempts to relieve her were, or seemed impracticable, and she was given over as a loss. I ordered 1½ ounce of cocum boiled awhile in 1½ pailful of water. A cooled pailful was set in the manger, saying 'drink or die.' The second day she drank it, and the third day she drank another pailful from the same root; and this was all that was done for her. Before she finished the cocum, she seemed pleased to have the calf nose her bag, and she made a noble cow."

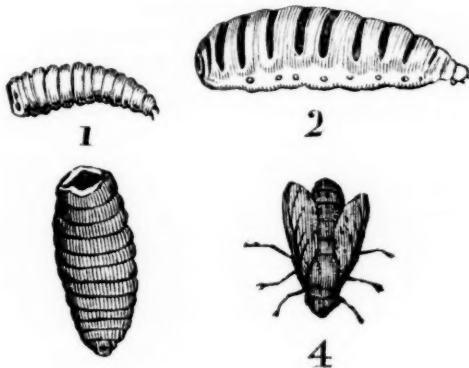
In cases where poke-root could not be had, we have used other remedies. If the inflammation was severe, we have had recourse to bleeding, and giving at the same time a good dose of glauber salts. After this, we have given about half a table spoon-full of saltpetre every alternate day, for six or eight days, in a mess of meal or bran—taking strict care always, that the milk was entirely drawn off.

Mr. Youatt recommends thoroughly rubbing the bag with the following ointment.

"Rub down an ounce of camphor, having poured a tea-spoonful of spirit of wine upon it; add an ounce of mercurial ointment, and half a pound of elder ointment, and well incorporate them together. Let this be applied after every milking, the udder being well fomented with

warm water, and the remains of the ointment washed off before the next milking."

We have spoken above, of bathing the bag with cold water to reduce the swelling, but if mercurial preparations are applied, warm water must be used.



THE SHEEP BOT—(*Oestrus ovis*.)

The family of *Æstridæ* is numerous. No less than three species are known to attack the horse; while the ox, sheep, goat, deer, and even man, in some countries, are each annoyed by one or more kinds peculiar to themselves. The habits of the different species are quite various—some breeding in the skin of the animals which they attack, (as the *O. bovis*, or ox-fly;) others breeding in the intestines, (as the *O. equis*, or horse-bot;) and others, like the species under consideration, passing the first stage of existence in the cavities of the head.

The effects of the attacks of these insects on animals, have never probably been clearly ascertained. In respect to those which attack the horse and the sheep, in particular, there has been much diversity of opinion; some contending that they are a great injury to the animals, sometimes causing death; while others suppose they occasion but little inconvenience.

Twelve or fifteen years ago, many sheep were lost in different parts of the country, as was then generally supposed, from worms in the head. Upon a particular examination, however, of some of the animals after death, the most indubitable evidence was found of the disease called *rot*, and but little doubt remained that their death was attributable to this cause. We dissected the heads of a sheep which had died from our own flock, and found in the cavities no less than forty larvæ of various sizes. Our neighbors said the death of the sheep had been undoubtedly occasioned by the worms, and that others, then exhibiting similar symptoms, would also die. But an examination of the heart and liver of the subject alluded to, as well as many *post mortem* examinations of others, invariably resulted in discovering the most marked symptoms of the *rot*. We have also examined the heads of healthy sheep, which had been slaughtered, often finding the worms in considerable numbers.

Still we are by no means prepared to say that the sheep is not injured by the insect; still less to admit the suggestion of Mr. Youatt, that "these bots may be serviceable, rather than injurious to the sheep." We presume not to fathom the designs of Providence in the creation of this or other forms of animal life—that everything, as Mr. Y. observes, tends to a benevolent end, we would by no means deny. We must confess, however, that in this case, we are unable to discover how the attacks of the insect conduce to the health or comfort of the sheep. It is certain that the fly is much abhorred. Any one will assent to this, who has witnessed the conduct of a flock of sheep exposed to its attacks, and observed their sagacious efforts to avoid the enemy. The poor animals may be seen huddled together upon some spot of bare, dusty ground, and will there endure for hours the scorching heat of the sun. The group stand with their heads towards the centre and with their noses close to the earth. If a fly of this kind appears near, they strike violently with their fore feet, and at the same time plunge their noses in the thickest dust, which usually prevents the fly from reaching them. Sometimes the fly, darting

out suddenly, will attack the sheep while quietly feeding, and succeed in leaving its egg in the nostril. In such case, the animal instantly exhibits the greatest uneasiness—shakes its head, stamps, and runs off furiously to some dusty spot, or protected corner.

Soon after the egg is deposited, it is hatched, and the young larvæ makes its way up the nasal sinuses to the cavities over the eye and around the brain. The motion of the worm is obviously disagreeable to the sheep, as is shown by its restlessness, sneezing, &c.; but when it has reached its destined place, and remains nearly stationary, we have not been able to discover that it occasioned pain, or sensibly affected the health of the sheep.

The attack of the fly continues from May to August, and the larvæ from the eggs first deposited, reach their full size and are ready for transformation on the return of warm weather the next spring. The efforts of the full-grown worm to escape from the head, appear sometimes to create disquietude and pain. They work their way out of the head as they first ascended, and crawl into the ground or the rubbish of the sheep yard. Their skin gradually shrinks and hardens, and they are soon formed into the chrysalis. In from forty to sixty-three days, according to the experiments of Valisnieri, the perfect transformation takes place, and the fly comes out. The variation in the length of time the insect remains in the pupa state, is dependent on the temperature—maturity being hastened by warmth. Though most of the worms leave the head of the sheep to undergo transformation, it is certain that all do not. We have sometimes found shells of the chrysalis in the sheep's head, showing that some reach the fly state before leaving.

Not having had an opportunity of examining this fly with sufficient minuteness to give a particular description, we take that of Mr. Youatt, as follows:—"The fly is considerably smaller than the size of the larva would indicate. Its head and corslet taken together, are as long as the body; and that is composed of five rings, tiger-colored on the back, with some small points and larger patches of a deep brown color. The belly is of nearly the same color, but has only one large circular spot on the centre of each of the rings. The length of the wings is nearly equal to that of the body, which they almost entirely cover. They are prettily striped and marked. The eyes have the appearance of net-work, and are of a deep and changeable green color. They occupy less space upon the head than those of most flies. In the small space between them, are placed three other minute eyes in the form of a triangle. They may be discovered in a tolerable light, or by a lens of small power. The rest of the head is yellow, and seemingly hollow. It appears as if it were perforated by a great number of small holes, like a piece of sponge, and at the bottom of each of these cavities, a small black spot appears."

The figures in the above cut are also taken from Mr. Youatt's treatise. Fig. 1 shows the larva or the bot of the *œstrus ovis*, half grown; 2, the same at its full growth; 3, the *œstrus ovis* in the pupa state; 4, the *œstrus* in the perfect state, giving a full length view of it.

To prevent the attack of the *œstrus*, it has been recommended to smear the noses of sheep with tar. We are unable to speak from experience of the efficacy of this. It is claimed that the odor of the tar, deters the fly from alighting to deposit its egg. It is evident however, that to answer any purpose, it should be applied with such frequency as not to become much dried on the sheep. Scotch snuff is sometimes thrown up the nostrils of the sheep, as recommended by Mr. Jewett, page 58, of this volume of the *Cultivator*. The irritation produced by the snuff brings on sneezing, by which it is thought the worm is ejected, and the head besides cleared of its unhealthy humors.

Several years ago, we adopted the use of the trephine, to relieve the difficulty occasioned, (as we then thought,) by worms. By trepanning the skull a little above each eye, some of the worms were taken out, and by pouring oil into the cavities, it was supposed the remainder would be destroyed. The operation being completed, the skin was closed over the aperture made by the trephine, and the wound soon healed. It is not

probable, however, that the use of this instrument can be made general; and indeed with the imperfect knowledge which at present prevails in regard to the effects occasioned by the insect, we are not prepared to recommend it. The best course, in our opinion, is to keep the sheep in good condition, that the circulation of the blood may be free, and the secretions natural. This will give the animals health and strength, by which they will be better enabled to throw off the worms whenever discomfort is experienced from them.

HINTS FOR THE SEASON.

Autumn is a favorable part of the year for making improvements on the farm. After the hay, the wheat, and other small grains have been secured, there is a lapse of time before the latter harvest demands attention, which furnishes a good opportunity for clearing fields of stumps and stones, making fences, improving meadows and pastures, reclaiming swamps and wet lands, digging peat and muck for manure, &c. The present season has been so dry that wet grounds may be worked on to good advantage, unless there should soon be heavy rains.

Moist grass-lands, whether in meadow or pasture, are liable to be more or less injured by the growth of bushes, rushes, and wild, worthless vegetation of various kinds. The most effectual remedy for this is thorough drainage, which should therefore be the first object. Bushes had better be pulled up root and branch. They generally grow in stools, raised a little from the general bed of the field, and may be readily torn up with a *root-claw*, (or in default of that, a plow,) to which oxen are attached. When the bushes are large they should be cut, in order to give a chance to get at the roots.

Tussocks of flat, wild grass, and small knobs, or bunches caused by moles, ants, &c., frequently occur on the surface of pastures and meadows. These should be cut off. If not too tough, they may be put at once into the hog-pen or barn-yard, to be wrought into manure; or they may be piled in heaps to lay till rotten before being used; or the hardest and toughest tussocks may be burnt, as soon as they are a little dried, and the ashes spread on grass grounds, or used for other crops. They make a large quantity of ashes, especially if taken from a mucky soil, and they produce very good effects, (as we have proved,) when spread on grass, turneps, or grain. The best mode of burning is to collect the tussocks into piles. Commence a fire in the centre, and when a few get well on fire, heap on a large quantity. The fire should work slowly, with as little flame as possible.

What is called a *bog-hoe*, is a proper tool for cutting tussocks. They should be ground to a sharp edge, to do the work easily and well. We have seen, at the implement warehouse in Boston, a tool to be drawn by oxen or horses, for shaving excrescences from pastures and meadows. We have no personal knowledge of its operation. Will some one who *knows* tell us how it works?

Peat or bog earth, designed for compost, or for spreading on cultivated fields, is much better for being dug sometime before being used. The action of the air, the frost, and the rains, dissipates its sourness, and a partial fermentation or decomposition takes place, by which it is pulverized, and brought into a good state to be applied to plants. The banks of ditches should be hauled to the barn-yard, or piled on dry land. If the ground is too soft and miry to admit of a team going on it, let the muck remain where it is first thrown out till winter, when the ground becomes frozen sufficiently to bear a yoke of oxen and sled; and then the muck can be easily cut into junks and carried off.

Peat or muck that has undergone a fermentation mixed with ashes and saturated with urine, is one of the best manures for gardens and nurseries that can be used, as it contains few or no seeds of weeds that will grow on dry ground.

That process of improving land called *PARING* and *BURNING*, though seldom practiced in this country, we feel sure, from what we have seen, might be adopted in many cases with excellent advantage. The operation consists in cutting a thin slice from the surface of sward or old grass lands. The sods are dried and burnt, and

the ashes spread over the land. It is most beneficial to clayey soils and those impregnated with iron—the iron being converted by the fire into what is called a peroxide, in which state it is harmless to vegetation.

The advantages of paring and burning are several; it destroys the seeds of weeds, and much of the foul growth with which the land may be filled; it also destroys many insects and their eggs, and furnishes in the ashes and calcined earth, a powerful manure, impregnated with alkaline salts and carbonaceous matter, which is found highly beneficial in correcting the tenacity of clays, and converting them into friable loams.

We are so well satisfied of the advantages of this operation, that we intend to call attention to it again, giving a more particular account of the process and its effects.

INFLUENCE OF ELECTRICITY ON VEGETATION.

We have heretofore forbore any remarks on this subject, believing that sufficient facts have not as yet been collected to justify positive conclusions; and knowing the avidity with which novelties are sometimes seized on, we have been cautious in laying accounts before our readers which might tend to lead the unwary astray.

Among the papers which were read at the late meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, was one by Mr. EDWARD SOLLY, "On the Influence of Galvanic Electricity on the Germination of Seeds." In the London Gardeners' Chronicle, we find a synopsis of this paper, from which the following is condensed:

Mr. Solly took a general view of all the experiments which have been reported in reference to this subject. He began by describing those of Sir H. Davy, and then described the recent experiments, giving an account of an extensive series at present being made in the gardens of the Horticultural Society.

"Seeds of barley, wheat, rye, turnep, and radish, were, in several different experiments, found to germinate with increased rapidity, when exposed to the influence of a feeble current of electricity of very low tension, and the plants not only came up sooner, but were more healthy than others. These experiments certainly appeared decisive in favor of the stimulating effect of electricity on germination, as distinguished from the mere chemical effect produced by electricity; but, on the other hand, a number of experiments on other seeds had given quite opposite results, proving either that the germination of some seeds was retarded, whilst that of others was facilitated by electricity; or, that the effects, observed in both cases, were merely incidental. Out of a series of 55 experiments on different seeds, 20 appeared in favor of electricity, 10 against it, and 25 showed no effect whatever; and on carefully counting the whole number of seeds up in the entire series, there were found 1250 of the electrified, and 1253 of the non-electrified seeds up. In conclusion, Mr. Solly stated that he felt very doubtful whether the effects observed were really due to the influence of electricity.

"Professor HENSLOW regarded this paper important, as showing how careful practical men ought to be, in arriving at conclusions upon insufficient evidence. Many persons believed that electricity exerted an influence on vegetation, from the instances of beneficial effects which had been brought forward, but they must now be regarded as purely accidental.

"Dr. DAUBENY stated, that although he had from the first doubted the influence of electricity on plants, he had, nevertheless, tried experiments, and come to the same conclusion as Mr. E. Solly.

"Dr. PERCY did not think Mr. Solly's experiments conclusive, as to the action of galvanism on the productiveness of plants. It was alleged that plants yielded more fruit from the action of electricity, but Mr. Solly's experiments only proved that their vegetative functions were not more vigorous.

"Mr. JOHN BALL believed that electricity exerted a constant influence on plants, and he regarded it as an agent in determining many of their peculiar forms. He believed it could be demonstrated that there was an antagonism in the electricity of the cellular and vascular tis-

sues, and that the peculiar organs, as the hairs and spines, developed by those tissues were dependent on this fact."

Since the above was prepared for publication, we have received the following, in relation to the same subject, from a scientific correspondent:

"Many newspapers contain marvellous stories of the remarkable effects of common electricity on vegetation. One experiment has been minutely described and illustrated by a diagram, and consists merely of a buried wire enclosing a piece of ground, and connected with iron rods rising some feet above the surface like common lightning rods. The land thus enclosed is stated to have produced a very heavy crop, which it may have done from other causes; but to suppose that the electricity had any influence, is of course ridiculously absurd. For the wires not being insulated, the trifling amount of electric fluid which may descend, passes off instantly into the earth; and if they were insulated the case would be in no wise different. The fluid always following the best conductor, the plants could not be electrified in the slightest degree by any management. A man may hold a lightning rod in his hand in a hard thunderstorm, and receive no injury, the fluid passing through the rod directly to the earth. And if the plants were actually electrified, it is by no means probable that any perceptible effect would be produced. It is well to distinguish real scientific discoveries from humbugs—to discriminate between good bills and counterfeits."

ENGLISH AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

In our last we mentioned, in a brief paragraph, that this Institution was shortly to go into operation. Our late English papers give some particulars in relation to the plan on which it is to be conducted, and as agricultural education is beginning to be regarded with so much attention in this country, we presume the doings of other nations in regard to this important subject will be looked upon with interest.

The Institution is located at Cirencester, in Wiltshire. Attached to it is a farm of 410 acres, 380 of which are arable, and of a varied character of soil. The general outlines of the plan and mode of management, so far as we have seen, appear to be judicious, and of an economical character.

"The farm," (it is said,) "will be cultivated on the best established system, and will combine the breeding and feeding of stock, with a dairy. Every description of trial and experiment will be made in such a manner as not to risk general results, it being the determination of the council that the system pursued on the farm shall be the one most profitable, and such as the pupils may adopt with confidence in their future occupations. Still a portion of land will be set apart for experiments with manures and various seeds."

The management of the farm is to be entrusted to a man (Mr. Scales,) who it is said is thoroughly versed in the minutest details of good husbandry. The farm laborers are to be chosen with great care; and that the pupils may obtain a thorough knowledge of all farming operations, a portion of the work will be allotted for their performance. The buildings are to be erected with such a view to economy of cost, that they may be safely adopted on any farm of similar size and character.

"The College is situated on the farm. The building will include a large dining hall, class-rooms, laboratory, museum, besides ranges of sleeping apartments on two floors, throughout which the best mode of heating and ventilation will be adopted, and separate rooms will be provided in case of illness. The head master and the professors will reside in the College. The schools will be under the management of the different professors, who will be constantly on the spot, and give their whole time to the pupils. The instruction will be conveyed not merely by lecture, but also by individual study and practical working. Mr. Way has been chosen as chemical and geological professor. Professors will be engaged to instruct in botany, natural history, mathematics and physics, drawing, mechanics, geometry, dynamics, levelling, mapping, surveying, building, hydrostatics,

hydraulics, &c., more particularly as they have reference to agriculture. The structure and treatment of the diseases of cattle, and a simple but accurate system of farm accounts, will form part of the instruction.

"Pupils who have at the least a knowledge of reading, writing, arithmetic and grammar, will be admitted from the age of fourteen to eighteen years; no pupil to remain after twenty. Their time will be divided between in-door instruction and out-door occupation. There will be frequent examinations, both public and private, and certificates of proficiency will be given them on leaving the Institution. They will board and lodge in the College. Each pupil will have a separate bed, and every attention will be paid to health and comfort. Each pupil will pay £30 [about \$150] per annum, by half-yearly instalments, in advance. Probably two vacations will be given in the year; a short one between hay and corn harvest, and a longer one at Christmas."

STATE OF THE CROPS.

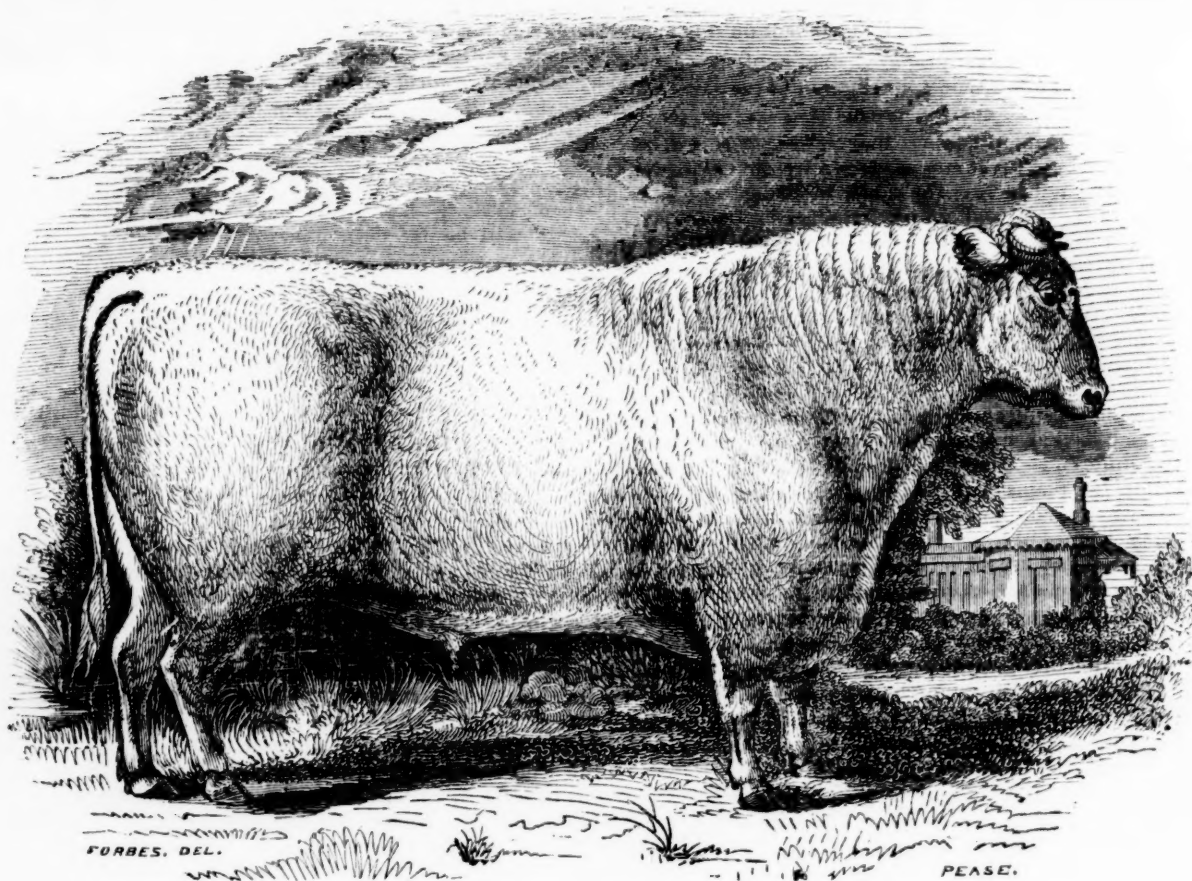
HILLSBORO Co., N. H.—A letter dated Aug. 9, from J. L. EATON, East Ware, informs us that there has been but little rain in that vicinity since the snow went off last spring—not so much as has sometimes fallen in a single day. The hay crop is not more than two-thirds an average yield. Wheat is well filled, but the heads are short. Wheat has been an uncertain crop there for several years, owing to the worm or maggot (*Cecidomyia tritici*) in the head—it sometimes destroyed nearly the whole crop. To avoid the insect, it was sowed late, but the late sown was liable to rust. Afterwards, it was thought better to risk the worm by sowing early, than the rust by sowing late. For the last two or three years, till the present, the insect has not been much seen. This year it has appeared in nearly all wheat fields, but has not been very destructive. Winter rye is light—oats good considering the drouth. Corn on dry land will not be much. Potatoe crop uncertain; much rain is wanted to give a fair crop of corn or potatoes. The rot has not troubled the potatoes in that neighborhood. The crop was good there last year.

ALABAMA.—From JOHN H. DENT, Esq., of Eufalla, we have a letter dated August 7th. He gives a gloomy account of the cotton crop. The drouth is said to have been more severe than was ever known before. The ground has not been wet four inches in depth since March last. There are a few neighborhoods that have had timely rains, and have made fine crops. In general, Mr. D. considers the "cotton crop at an end, and it is daily exhibiting a more sickening appearance." He says—"our only hope for so sad a disaster, is an advance of cotton." Corn crop is very short, but it is added "by sowing grain this fall, we may have enough for domestic purposes."

WESTERN NEW-YORK.—SAMUEL WILLIAMS, writes from Waterloo, Aug. 10th—"Wheat in our vicinity has been much injured by the rust. Many pieces were struck in our warmest driest weather. Hay is a middling crop; oats middling, but shrink; barley, flax, and Indian corn, very good; potatoes very light, but so far uninjured by rot. The last few days have been the hottest of the season. Last evening, we had two inches of rain."

PENNSYLVANIA.—A letter from A. LANGDON ELWYN, dated Reculver, Westchester county, Aug. 19th, states—"the frost of 31st May destroyed nearly all the wheat in this neighborhood. Little or none of the Mediterranean variety escaped, it being more forward than any other. What is known as *white* wheat was not injured. The early maturity of the Mediterranean wheat is an objection to it; but in a climate like ours, who is to calculate or guard against summer chills?"

SOUTH CAROLINA.—W. B., Laurens District, writes, Aug. 10th—"Our oat crop was a failure; wheat is light, but the berry is as fine as any I ever saw. Corn is scarce. It is now selling at 87½ cents to \$1 per bushel. I do not think the price will be sustained this fall, for in some parts of the state, the crop is said to be better than ever before—especially creek and river bottoms."



IMPROVED SHORT-HORN BULL "KING CHARLES 2d."—Fig. 86.

The above is a most accurate portrait of the imported Short-Horn bull *King Charles 2d*, owned by JAMES LENOX, Esq., Netherwood, Dutchess county. The pedigree of this animal is given in the fourth volume of the Herd-book, as follows:

"4154, KING CHARLES 2d, bred by Mr. Whitaker; got by Sir Thomas Fairfax (5196)—d. (Lingflower,) by Ellerton's bull—g. d. (Gillyflower,) by Young Colling, (1843)—gr. g. d., by Allison's Danby—gr. gr. g. d. by Pink Bull, bred by Mr. Leonard Carter, of Applegarth."

Mr. Lenox has also several cows imported at various times. Of one of these, *Red Lady*, our readers will remember, we gave a fine portrait, on steel, in the first no. of our present volume. *Daffodil*, another very superior cow, imported with *Red Lady* in 1840, he has been so unfortunate as to lose. She died of milk-fever, shortly after having her calf last spring. *Gayly*, imported in 1841, is a fine showy cow, evincing a great tendency to fatten. Mr. L. has also a fine Ayrshire cow, showing excellent points as a milker, and for constitution. Mr. L. informed us, that she was equal, for the dairy, to any cow in the herd.

From these cows, he has several heifers, (some of which have now had calves,) that are very promising. With a yearling and a two-year-old, out of *Daffodil*, and a two-year-old and a calf out of the Ayrshire cow, by *King Charles 2d*, we were particularly pleased.

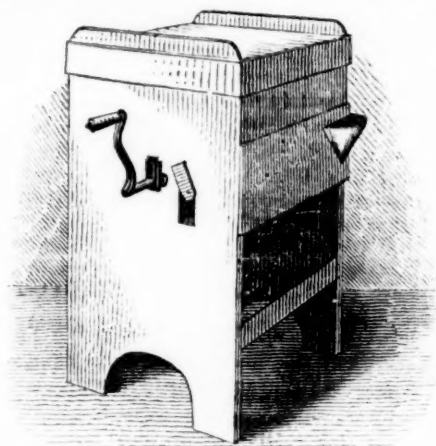
Mr. Lenox keeps the South Down sheep, of which he has a very pretty flock of about sixty. He is well pleased with them on account of their hardiness, and especially for the superior quality of their mutton. He remarked that he had frequently sent carcasses of the mutton to his friends, without their having any knowledge of the breed, and its excellence never failed to excite remark and inquiry in relation to it. The quality of the mutton of this fine breed is beginning to be properly appreciated in our cities.

Of swine, Mr. L. showed us some very pretty Berkshires, and a very fine Neapolitan sow, with several of her progeny of various ages, by a Berkshire boar. The cross bred stock look exceedingly well, being of fine

form, and apparently hardy. We should think the best Neapolitans would make a desirable cross with the Berkshires—especially the larger class of the latter. Mr. L. has several full blood Neapolitans at his place in New-York, but the sow mentioned is the only one kept at the farm.

The team work of the farm is done partly by horses and partly by oxen. Of the latter, we saw two yoke that were large and strong. But we were particularly pleased with three or four of the carriage horses which were shown us. One of them in particular, a colt five years old, bred by Mr. Neefus, near Flatbush, Long Island, is one of the most splendid horses we have ever seen. It would certainly be of service to know exactly how such a noble animal has been bred and reared.

Mr. Lenox's farm consists of upwards of two hundred acres. He purchased it about seven years ago, at which time it was much out of order. All the buildings and nearly all the fences have therefore been erected by Mr. L. who has spared no pains to render them as perfect as possible in their design and completion. The place embraces a great variety of surface, which has rendered it susceptible of being laid out and improved in a highly ornamental and tasteful manner. The mansion, which is approached from the main road by a long avenue, winding through beautiful groves, is situated on a delightful spot, commanding the most charming landscape views on the banks of the Hudson. To the south, the village of Newburgh, though seven or eight miles distant, is brought plainly before the eye; and all the various objects which mark the scene, with almost every inch of the surface of the river may be readily seen till the noble stream is suddenly lost from sight in its deep gorge through the Highlands. To the north, also, the view is scarcely less beautiful, embracing as it does a rich and varied picture of cultivated fields, thriving villages and towns, woods and mountains. Indeed, considered both in reference to its natural advantages, and the embellishments which wealth and taste have bestowed, Netherwood is a place exactly fitted for the abode of contemplative and well cultivated minds.



CROWELL'S THERMOMETER CHURN—(Fig. 87.)

These churns are recommended by those who have used them several years, as being superior to any other kind they have ever tried. "The churn is constructed," (say the manufacturers,) "so as to bring the milk or cream to the exact degree of heat which is required to produce the greatest quantity and best quality of butter." A thermometer is placed in one end of the churn, by which the operator can ascertain when the milk or cream has the proper temperature, which practice shows to be 62 degrees. If, when put in the churn, the cream is too cold, warm water is turned in, by means of a tunnel at the side of the churn—if it is too warm, cold water is added till the requisite degree is reached. These churns, and also the patent-right for using them, are for sale by A. & Wm. A. CROWELL, manufacturers of agricultural implements, Lyme-Rock, Conn.

AURORA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We had the gratification of attending the fourth monthly exhibition of this society, held at the village of Aurora on the fifteenth of last month. It is a decisive proof of the energy and interest which prevails, that each succeeding exhibition, though occurring as often as each month, has increased in brilliancy and attraction.

On the present occasion, the display of fruit was necessarily small, owing to the great and general destruction caused by the severe frosts of early summer. Several fine and choice collections were however presented, and among others about twenty different varieties in fine eating condition from one cultivator. We noticed three varieties of ripe peaches, though the crop suffered a nearly total destruction this year.

But the collection of flowers more particularly excited warm and general admiration. Not only were the specimens numerous and splendid, but the tasteful arrangement for display we have scarcely if ever seen equalled. They occupied a platform which extends across one end of the large public hall used for the occasion. On the right and left was a fine collection of green house plants, some of them in splendid bloom: and in the centre, on light shelves, rising successively to near the ceiling, and extending a length of 30 feet, were a most brilliant profusion of cut flowers, arranged with great skill, the brilliancy of which was much increased by transmitted light from behind, blending with the copious reflected light in front. Among the contributors were a large number from the immediate neighborhood, together with splendid collections from Auburn, Ithaca, Rochester, and other places.

Several hundred persons were assembled to witness the exhibition, and during the afternoon were addressed with much effect by H. R. Schoolcraft, C. Mattoon, and Wm. H. Bogart. The awarding committees reported, and the flowers and fruit were then sold by auction on the spot, which enabled the spectators to avail themselves of a much better view of each specimen individually, and to possess them if they chose. As an indication

of the merit of the collection, and the skill of the contributors, as well as the taste of the purchasers, it may be mentioned that at a similar sale a month before the avails from the cut-flowers alone amounted to about fifteen dollars, and on the present occasion to more than twenty-one dollars, several single bouquets selling freely from three to four dollars. David Thomas is President, and Alexander Thompson, Secretary, and to their indefatigable exertions, especially of the latter, with those of the entire committee, the remarkable success of an inland neighborhood institution such as this, is to be mainly ascribed.

FARM OF JAMES GOWEN.

In the *Farmer's Cabinet* for June, is a copy of the report given by Mr. GOWEN of his farm, to the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture. We should be pleased to copy the whole of the report, but want of room allows us to make only the following summary and extracts.

The farm is located near Philadelphia, and now contains about 100 acres, exclusive of woodland. Mr. G. took possession of it in 1834, at which time it is represented to have been in a very worn down and poor condition, from the neglect and bad management of previous owners. Mr. Gowen took away the old fences, made a new division of the farm, and fenced with stone-walls and hedges of the Osage orange, drained, and filled up ravines and gullies.

The land is now brought into a high state of cultivation, producing 100 bushels of corn, 400 bushels potatoes, 50 bushels wheat, &c., to the acre. He at first bought manure from the city, but after three or four years' experience, he gave up the plan, and has since made enough on his own premises, excepting light dressing. To do this he has been obliged to increase his stock of animals. "To maintain this stock," he says, "and bring my land to a high state of cultivation, by the most efficient and economical practice, has been a leading object; and to accomplish this, required no ordinary management on such a farm. The stock in cattle has ranged for years, from forty to fifty head, in addition to the necessary horses, with a large stock of swine for breeding and fattening; and these I have fed from the produce of the farm, except the purchasing occasionally of some straw, and supplies of mill feed for the horses and swine, and some meadow hay for the cattle, selling frequently its equivalent in timothy. During the same period I have sold hundreds of bushels of rye, some wheat, and on an average, four hundred bushels of potatoes annually, with some three to four hundred bushels of carrots, besides providing for the family. But the chief income was derived from the cattle.

"My expenditures during the whole period, could not be otherwise than large; as I could not put up so much stone fence, and picket fence, as encloses my farm without incurring a heavy outlay; but I view these improvements as cheap in the end. It may be safely inferred, that there is not at this day, any farm of the same extent in this part of the country, that can so easily be worked, or will require so little expense for a series of years in keeping the fences in order, especially when the hedges are taken into account. I am also of opinion, that taking in view the condition of the soil, as to depth and richness, as well as its being entirely free of stones and other impediments, that I can make it produce as much as any farm of its size in any part of the country, for a series of years, and at as small an expense.

"The secret of keeping so large a stock on so little land, consists in my practice of partial soiling, and green crops, whereby I make some four or five acres do the work of thirty acres, in the "slow and easy go way." From May to August, my cattle are confined to one or two fields, most commonly one, to which they are driven, more for exercise in the cooler parts of the day, than for pasture; they being fed in the stables early in the morning, at noon, and at night, with food cut for them from a lot adjoining the barn-yard. The food is generally of lucerne, orchard grass and clover, oats and corn. The patches from which the corn and oats are cut,

are always sowed with turneps in August. No one can credit, unless he has had proper experience in the matter, the quantity of food that one acre of lucerne, one of rich orchard grass and clover, and one of oats and corn, afford from May till August, nor can he estimate the great saving in manure, much less the comparatively good health of the cattle, from not being exposed on the naked fields, under a fervid sun, toiling all day in search of food. This practice allows me to crop almost the whole of the land, and to make some 120 to 150 tons of hay annually. In the fall, from August till November, the cattle have the whole range of the mowed lands, as I do not cut second crop grass for hay. Then for winter feed, I have always an acre of sugar beet, half an acre of sugar parsneps; half an acre or more of carrots, for my horses; and generally from three to four acres of turneps. I report to the Committee on Crops this season, over 100 tons of these roots. In 1843, I gathered from one acre, 1078 bushels sugar beets. 60 lbs. to the bushel; carrots at the rate of 687 bushels; sugar parsneps, 863 bushels. This year 972 bushels sugar beets; 970 bushels carrots; 700 bushels sugar parsnep; and from three and a half acres, 2500 bushels of turneps, sowed with timothy seed.

The farm buildings consist of three substantial stone barns, one 70 feet by 33, another 50 by 26, and another hipt roof with cupola, 57 by 25, besides a large overshoot stable and hay house, stable high of stone, 60 feet by 30—the lower floors of all these are made of broken stone and lime, planked, being vermin proof. There are also, a corn crib capable of holding 1200 bushels of corn, one barrack, ample hog-pens, and sheds for carts and wagons. The barn buildings have been filled this fall to their utmost limit, except the corn crib.

"A substantial stone wall encloses the principal manure heap; the drainings from this heap are led into a place of deposit, in which are received also a drain that runs under ground from the kitchen, as well as drainings from the pig-pens, and the washings from all the yards. These drainings form an important item in the supply of manure to my land; it is a saving which I cannot estimate at less than \$200 a year. This liquid by a simple process is applied to the patches of roots, &c., and to this may be ascribed my great success in raising such crops.

"Of *Improved Cattle*, my first effort was with the celebrated "Dairy Maid," still owned by me. Her first calf, LEANDER, by *Whitaker's PRINCE OF NORTHUMBERLAND*, was reared and kept by me, for breeding. DAIRY MAID's calves alone, exclusive of Leander, have already sold for more than \$500. It would be curious to trace her profit at this day, by stating an account of her first cost, her keep, and that of her son Leander; crediting her by sales of her own calves and grand calves; deducting for the portion of the capital which was invested in the dams that produced the grand calves. To do this, would extend this paper to an unusual length—suffice it to say, that Dairy Maid has long since paid for herself, and that those who laughed at me for giving \$540 for one cow, may turn this statement over in their minds, and think, whether since 1838 any investment of theirs, to the same amount, in any other branch of husbandry, has paid so well.

But there is a satisfaction beyond that of the pocket, and that is, that Dairy Maid's breed will be of infinite service to the country. Her calves and grand calves, are pretty well scattered already—and I make no doubt, but wherever found they will demonstrate the high character of the parent stock.

My sales for the last two years, exclusive of Dairy Maid's calves, amount to over \$2000. The stock now on hand is about 40 head, principally Durhams. The butter sold for the last two years exceeds \$750; this is a respectable item, when the calves that were reared, and the supply for my family are taken into view. From early fall to spring, the butter averaged 70 lbs. per week—the quality highly appreciated abroad, as well as at home.

"In the hog line, I have been quite successful, at least in bringing the animal by judicious crossing, to great perfection. I fattened off my old Lincoln, and Berk-

shire Boars, and my Hampshire and Chester county sows, last month; they weighed from 400 to 450 lbs., sold for \$86.24. Have sold the last two years of pigs, designed for breeding, \$150. Bacon, lard, &c., over \$120, besides, having on hand 14 fine young barrows, last fall's pigs, now ready for slaughter, which will weigh from 250 to 300 lbs. each, value \$150. The stock on hand consists of one fine boar of Lincoln, Hampshire, and Berkshire breed; one brood sow of Berkshire breed, 12 shoats and seven pigs."

FAIR OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE.

From the circular of the Managers we give the following extracts. They are making vigorous efforts to render the coming exhibition superior to any preceding one:

The exhibition will be opened to the public on Monday, the 6th day of October, 1845, at 12 o'clock, M., at Niblo's Garden, Broadway, in the city of New-York. Contributions from exhibitors will be received on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the previous week. To insure the most favorable locations, and the advantages of competition, the products of the Manufacturer, Mechanic and Artisan must be delivered and entered on the books of the Fair, on one of those days. The chance of a good location will be in favor of those who come the first and second day. Fruits, Flowers, &c., form an exception. The proper time for entering them will be specified in the agricultural and horticultural circular, or notices hereafter to be issued.

On Thursday, the 9th day of October, a National Convention of Farmers and Gardeners, and Silk Culturists will be held. Circulars, with questions prepared, will be issued. Washington's Home Department of Agriculture, recommended by the Institute, and unanimously approved by a National Convention held last year, will again be urged.

For the second week, has been assigned the show of cattle, horses, and other live stock, and the plowing and spading matches. To accommodate those interested in the cattle show, a beautiful plot of ground has been secured between Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth streets, near the intersection of Broadway and the Fifth Avenue, with commodious rooms on the premises for accommodating the committees. The plowing and spading matches will be held in New-York, or its vicinity. For particulars, see agricultural circular.

The anniversary and other addresses will also be delivered in the course of the second week. The horticultural exhibition of vegetables, fruits, flowers, &c., will be in Niblo's long promenade, superintended by eminent horticulturists. Great varieties of rare seeds have been, the last year, scattered by the Institute over our country, with the express understanding, that a portion of their products be brought to the Fair, to swell the beauties of the display.

The best new and useful inventions will be objects of the highest honors. Also, establishments affording large varieties of specimens of well constructed agricultural and horticultural machines and implements; but in no case, for want of competition, or other cause, will any article be entitled to premium, if adjudged intrinsically not deserving particular commendation.

DEPTH OF PLANTING CORN.

No. 1, 1 inch deep, come up in 8½ days.			
2, 1½	"	"	9½ "
3, 2	"	"	10 "
4, 2½	"	"	11½ "
5, 3	"	"	12 "
6, 3½	"	"	13 "
7, 4	"	"	13½ "
8, 4½	"	"	"
9, 5	"	"	"
10, 5½	"	"	17½ "
11, 6	"	"	"

Nos. 8, 9, and 11, were dug in 22 days; No. 8 was an inch below the surface, and 9 and 11, 3 inches below. No. 10 was very weak and died in 10 days.—*Burger*.

INQUIRIES.

RIBBON HOUSES.—T. C. (Sullivan, N. Y.) We are not in possession of any more particular information in regard to this kind of buildings, than we gave in our Feb. No., (page 42 of this vol.)

CHARCOAL.—B. S. (and others.) That from hard wood is considered best for agricultural purposes, and we believe that from maple is as good as any. Pine and hemlock make lighter coal—whether the same weight of it would be worth as much as that from hard wood, we cannot tell. Try both kinds, and you may then know.

ICE-HOUSE.—“What is the most approved plan of constructing an ice-house, where the springs at certain seasons of the year, are within four feet of the surface of the ground?” Query by “B. S.” If any one will answer it, we shall feel obliged.

BURNT CLAY.—B. S. We should think unburnt clay would be best for a sandy soil, because by burning it loses in a great measure its adhesiveness, and its attraction for water, which constitute its value for sand. We have no personal experience in burning clay, though we have partially witnessed the process. It can best be described in the language of Mr. Rham, in his “Dictionary of the Farm:”

“To burn clay, it is dug out in lumps and dried; heaps are made of these at regular distances in the field, with a small cavity in the centre, in which dry furze and brush-wood are introduced. This being lighted, the fire is allowed to burn slowly, and the smoke kept in by adding a sod or clod wherever it bursts out. When the heap is once burning, more clay may be added, even without being dry, and the combustion goes on without other fuel. It must be so managed as to bake the clay without heating it too much; and when the heaps are cooled and opened, the whole should appear pulverized, and of a red color, if oxide of iron exists in the soil. A coat of two or three inches thick, spread on a field and plowed in, will greatly improve its texture; but sufficient animal or vegetable manure must be added to make it fertile.”

SOAKING SEED-WHEAT.—A. W. (Huntington, L. I.) The length of time the grain may safely remain in the solution, depends much on the degree of temperature in which it is kept. Mr. Campbell soaked his seeds in muriate and sulphate of ammonia, from forty to sixty hours, in a temperature of 70 degrees. We presume there would be no risk in soaking wheat twenty-four hours at that temperature.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.—C. F. (Morristown, N. Y.) Sulphate of ammonia is often used instead of muriate, in steeping seeds. Experiment only can decide which is the best. We do not particularly know about Dr. Feuchtwanger's compound of sulphate of ammonia, nitrate of soda, &c.

SANDY LAND.—A. W. The soil would probably be improved by spreading on clay or any good soil of a more compact nature than that of the field. We are not aware of any objection to the use of lime where ashes have formerly been applied. The lime had better be kept near the surface.

“HOOKS.”—L. F. S. (Highgate.) The only remedy we have ever heard for this disease, is to cut out the gristly substance which grows in the eye. We believe this is done by the use of small hooks and sharp scissors.

CASTOR-OIL BEAN.—T. H. (Troy, Miss.) wishes to be informed of the proper mode of harvesting this plant, and of manufacturing and clarifying the oil.

HUSSEY'S CORN AND COB CRUSHER.—The proprietor of this article is requested to give information through the Cultivator what speed per minute the machine should have, and how to prevent the steel cutter from choking so as to stop the machine.

SWAMP MUCK, CHARCOAL, &c.—B. N. (Ipswich, N. H.) Swamps should first be drained. The wild growth should then be subdued, and they may be sown with grass-seed, or cultivated, as may be deemed most profitable. One of the best modes of using muck is to mix it with animal manure, especially to absorb urine. Hog-

pens, cattle and sheep-yards, should be covered with a layer of it to take all the urine and the soak of the manure. Where there are barn cellars, it should be kept under the cattle and horse stalls. It will answer a good purpose in many cases if applied by itself, but it is better to use it as mentioned, or mix ashes with it. Lime is also useful in ridding it of acids, noxious to vegetation, which it sometimes contains. (Get Dr. Dana's “Muck Manual.”)

SUBSTITUTE FOR WHITE LEAD.—P. (Uniontown, Pa.) From experience, we are unable to say what recipe would prove best, but prefer the following to any we at present recollect:

Take one bushel of unslacked lime, and slack it with cold water; when slacked add to it 20 lbs. of Spanish whiting, 17 lbs. of salt, and 12 lbs. of sugar. Strain this mixture through a wire sieve, and it will be fit for use, after reducing with cold water. This is intended for the outside of buildings, or where it is exposed to the weather. Two coats should be laid on wood, and three on brick. A whitewash brush may be used for laying it on, and each coat must be dried before the next is applied. This may be made any color you please. For straw color, instead of the whiting use yellow ochre; for lemon color, ochre and chrome yellow; for lead or slate color, lampblack; for blue, indigo; or green, chrome green.

MACHINE FOR LOADING STONES.—G. B. (Frederick Co., Md.) wishes to learn whether there is in use a simple, cheaply constructed machine, suitable for loading stones of four or five hundred weight, that one or two hands could work.

LAWRENCE'S LEVER BUCKLE.—The depot for the sale of this article is CORNELL & BROTHERS, 269 Pearl-street, New-York.

THE POPPY—OPIMUM.—A SUBSCRIBER, (Petersville, Md.) We are unable to say how many pots of opium can be produced per acre. The somniferous poppy may be readily grown in this latitude—indeed several varieties of it are common in flower-gardens—but the narcotic juice which it affords, is said to be much less potent than that produced in hotter countries. We do not know whether it could be profitably cultivated in the latitude of Maryland.

INJURY TO AN OX'S EYE.—A. L. (St. Joseph, Mich.) Treat the eye as you would your own, if it had received the same injury. If a film grows over it, some fine table-salt blown in through a quill, will probably take it off.

SWEET SCENTED CLOVER.—A. L. It is not worth much for fodder.

SEED SOWER.—J. F. A. (Zanesville, O.) The price of Seward's machine, (mentioned in the April number) is \$10. It would sow mustard well. There are several other machines, varying in price. The Boston agricultural warehouses would be likely to furnish an assortment of such articles. Lewis' machine is highly recommended, and is undoubtedly one of the best. It is for sale in Boston.

SILK CULTURE.—“A Subscriber.” We know of no “periodical” at present published on this subject. If a treatise is what is wanted, a copy of Whitmarsh's Manual can be had at this office.

SEEDS OF THE LARCH.—J. B. (Van Buren, N. Y.) We suppose it is the seed of the Scotch Larch that is wanted. They could not be had in any considerable quantity without importing them. The best way would probably be to import the young trees from Scotland. We cannot say what they would cost. If any one in this country has them for sale, they would do well to inform us.

“MOWING MACHINE.”—J. S. (Prospect Hall.) The machines used for cutting wheat are commonly called harvesting machines. We are not aware of any reason why they may not cut oats as well as wheat.

WOAD.—J. D. F. (Schuyler, N. Y.) As it is too late for any information in regard to culture to be useful this season, we only give from the “Flemish Husbandry” some remarks on curing. The leaves begin to be fit for gathering when they turn down, and turn slightly yellow. A dry time is necessary for gathering, which is

repeated three or four times as the leaves arrive at the proper state of maturity. If any dust adhere to the leaves they should be slightly washed, and set to dry in the sun. They are the better for a slight drying before they are carried to the mill. They should never be heaped in the fresh state so as to excite the least fermentation. They are ground into a paste in a mill constructed like an oil mill. The paste is well pressed with the hands and feet under a shed, and made into one or more heaps, of which the surface is made smooth. There it heats, and a hard crust is formed on the surface, which must not be broken on any account; all cracks in it are immediately stopped with some paste. In a fortnight the fermentation is completed, which is known by the cessation of the strong ammoniacal smell, diffused during the time of its continuance. The mass is then broken up, and the crust is well mixed with the interior parts. The whole is formed by the hands into balls of about one pound weight each, and then pressed into oblong moulds and formed into cakes like small bricks. These being carefully dried are fit for sale.

CHARLOCK, OR WILD MUSTARD.—A. E. (Cicero, N. Y.,) wishes to know the best mode of eradicating this plant. His course so far has been to pull up every stalk as soon as it appears. Is there a better or more economical way?

CONDENSED CORRESPONDENCE.

IMPROVED FARMING.—"EXPERIMENT," Easton, Talbot county, Maryland, informs us that in 1840, he bought a farm of 200 acres, of what was considered worn-out land. The year before he bought it, it was cultivated by a man who was thought a good farmer, and its produce was 410 bushels of corn, 31 bushels of wheat, and 115 bushels of oats, "all told, and no hay nor pasturage." Its present produce is stated at 1,200 bushels corn, 100 bushels wheat, and 800 bushels oats; which crops at a fair cash valuation, would give an income over the year 1839, of \$515.10. In addition to the above crops, there have been raised for the two last years, from 300 to 500 bushels of potatoes each year, as well as from 200 to 500 bushels of turneps and beets, with such other vegetables as are commonly cultivated in a garden, and from five to ten tons of good hay." The stock kept is one saddle and carriage-horse, two work horses, one mule, fifteen head of cattle, (on an average,) and from four to six hogs, the latter confined in pens, and kept constantly in the manufacture of compost from leaves, straw, earth from the woods, muck, &c. As much manure is also made from the cattle and horses as is practicable, by providing materials for absorbing the urine, &c., all which is applied to the land. The writer states that he gave \$1120 for his farm, which was considered very high. In regard to the expense of management, he says—"I keep two men; one of which runs the cart nearly all the year, hauling wood, hay, manure, and materials for making it, going to mill, &c.; the other performs the farm-work, with such help as he gets from the carter. For these two hands I pay \$110 a year, including clothes, &c."

CULTURE OF POTATOES—DROUTH IN VIRGINIA.—Mr. H. R. ROBNEY, Hopewell, Va., states that he has been successful by cultivating potatoes by the following mode. He breaks up a piece of sward land in the fall or spring, and about the 20th of June re-plows it. Lays off the rows four feet apart, and plants the pieces of potatoes a foot in the row. He states that he has found no difference in planting large or small potatoes, either in quantity or quality, and he prefers cutting up small, as he thinks one good eye better than two or more. When the tops are about six or eight inches high, he runs the plow close to the potatoes and throws the earth away, and then turns the earth immediately back, and follows with the hoes. This is all the working they get. We think common experience does not agree with Mr. Robney's remarks about the product of small potatoes, and cutting potatoes for planting very small.

Mr. Robney states that the potatoe crop in his neighborhood this season must be small, even with a good season, for the farmers could not get seed to plant. Potatoe rot has not made its appearance in that section.

The drouth, Mr. R. says, "has been truly distressing. The corn crop cannot be more than one-third the usual yield—the oat crop very small. Wheat has done well both in quantity and quality."

BLACK-LEG IN CALVES.—E. HAMMOND, Conesville, says in regard to this disease—"Be as careful of your calves as though they were made of flesh and blood. Give them therefore a dry stable or house to winter in, and instead of giving them an ounce of salt-petre once in three weeks, just give them a good tea-spoonful once a week. But mind and keep their feet dry—this is the grand secret. They need good water too, as often as do your horses—see that they have it."

CULTURE OF POTATOES.—S. WIDNEY, Piqua, O., informs us that he successfully cultivates potatoes on the following plan. Plant in hills, and when the potatoes are about an inch out of the ground, take a light plow and run it so close to them as to cover them lightly with earth. When they get through this an inch or so, cross-plow them, covering up as before. This mode is stated to be equal to the best hoeing, besides being a great saving of labor. Mr. W. states that he has practiced this mode for several years, and has never lost a hill, or had them at all injured by covering.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES AND PAPERS.—Mr. Widney informs us that an Agricultural Society was organized in Miami county last year, that a fair was held at which a large concourse of farmers attended, bringing a respectable amount of good stock, &c., that the funds and general concerns of the society are in good condition, and that there is every prospect of success. Speaking of the advantages of agricultural papers, Mr. Widney says—"By reading the Cultivator for the last eight years, I have derived a cash profit of at least *fifty dollars per year*, in the way of improved cultivation and farming economy generally."

SALTPETRE FOR BEEF—COTTON BEDS.—ALEXANDER LEEDS, Esq., St. Joseph, Michigan, writes us—"In curing my beef last fall, I used saleratus in place of saltpetre, and I never had better beef."

"You spoke of 'cotton beds' in your Dec. No., '44. I have been using them in my family for several years, made of 'batting.' In summer they are cool and comfortable, and in winter equal to any feather bed. They are made like mattresses, sewed through and through at every six or eight inches."

TO CURE THE SCOURS IN HORSES.—Dissolve a piece of opium as large as a common sized chestnut in one pint of brandy, and pour it down from a bottle at one dose. I have given it, and ordered it in a number of cases and never knew it to fail to effect a final cure. Laudanum will answer the same purpose, if you can ascertain its strength so as to know how much to give. R. BURRIT.

GOOD SHEEP.—Mr. REED BURRITT, of Burdett, N. Y., informs us that he has a flock of 242 sheep, which yielded on the average, at the last shearing "a fraction over four lbs. two oz. per head—well washed on the sheep's back. One wether gave seven lbs. fourteen oz., one ewe seven lbs. seven oz." Two bucks, one a yearling and the other a two-year-old, purchased of Mr. R. A. Avery, of Galway, N. Y., gave eight lbs. five oz., (the oldest,) and six lbs. three oz., (the youngest.)

Mr. Burritt has 14 ewes and two young bucks which he purchased of S. W. Jewett, of Vt. One of the bucks is two years old, and the other is a yearling. The two-year-old was not sheared; the yearling's fleece weighed seven lbs. fourteen ounces, "well washed on his back." Mr. B. has also 13 ewes and a yearling buck which he purchased of John T. Rich, of Shoreham, Vt. [He refers to the Cultivator for 1844, page 378 for pedigrees of Mr. Rich's sheep.] The two lots were mostly one and two years old. "Messrs. Jewett & Rich," says Mr. Burritt, "thought they would average five lbs. of wool per head; but they came a little short of that as might have been expected, considering they came a long and tedious journey in the month of April, and were sheared fifteen days earlier than any of them were last year." Mr. Burritt gives his sheep through the winter, half a gill of corn or a gill of oats per head, daily, and feeds them with straw at noon, and hay morning and

evening; having good sheds, which are carefully kept dry and clean by littering with straw as often as is necessary.

In a subsequent letter from Mr. Burritt, we have received samples of his wool, which can be seen at this office. He states that he paid for the 30 sheep he bought in Vermont, \$660—that it cost \$90 to get them home, making the whole cost \$750.

LARGE FLEECES.—Mr. A. L. BINGHAM of Cornwall, Vt., writes us as follows:—"I notice in the last number of the Cultivator, a stump against the whole world. It is a very difficult matter to find a flock of sheep that will supersede every thing else, without finding something that will match them; consequently I am inclined to give you the result of the shearing of my sheep. In looking over my minutes, I find it to stand as follows: 48 paular merino ewes, with lambs by their sides, and two rams, averaged me 6 pounds 2½ ounces of well washed wool per head. One buck, the Vermont Hero, 12 pounds 7 ounces—the other, the American Tiger, three years old, 12 pounds 10 ounces—one ewe sheared 9 pounds—four others between 8 and 9 pounds—the remainder between 4 and 7 pounds per head. Fifty-two yearling ewes, including two rams, averaged 6 pounds 3½ ounces—one yearling buck 8 pounds 14 ounces—another 8 pounds 9 ounces. Sixty Gaudaloupe breeding ewes averaged me a fraction less. I should like to know how many Mr. Randall took his averages from, whether they were all breeding ewes or yearlings, and how much the average was in pounds and ounces. Will he give us the result, so that we can see how we stand? So I would say old Cornwall against the world."

HEAVY FLEECE.—Mr. BUEL WARNER, of Cornwall, Vermont, writes, that having seen in our last, an account of the fleeces yielded by Mr. Randall's sheep, and noticing that Cortland "offers against the world," he was induced to send us the weight of a yearling buck of his, own brother to Mr. R.'s heavy fleeced one. Mr. Warner states that his sheep was yeaned the first week in April, 1844, and was sheared the 23d of June last. The fleece weighed 9 lbs 5 ounces, well washed and in good condition. This, he says, is over a pound more than Mr. R.'s gave at the first shearing. Accompanying this account, was a sample of the wool. It is clean, and of remarkable quality for such weight. The weight of the sheep is 116 pounds. He, as well as Mr. R.'s buck, were by Mr. Jewett's *Fortune*. Mr. Warner also states that Mr. Jewett sold last year, a March lamb to Mr. Foot, a neighbor of Mr. W.'s, which sheared on the 20th of June last, 11 pounds of wool.

EDITOR OF THE CULTIVATOR.—Will you permit one of your Boston subscribers to make a suggestion to the dairyman of New-York, Vermont, &c. For several years past, I have noticed that butter, which was perfectly sweet at the time it was purchased, has acquired towards the latter part of the season, (say March to May,) a *bitterish* taste in the outer portion of the mass, which rendered it totally unfit for the table. As this was entirely different from the *rancid* taste incident to badly made butter, I have attributed it to some quality inherent in the wood of which the firkins were made, probably owing to the circumstance of its being wrought in a *green* state. If this be the case, I should think it very desirable that those farmers who are in the habit of packing butter for distant markets, should procure for that purpose only such vessels as are made of properly seasoned wood.

C.

MR. EDITOR.—I have pursued an effectual method of exterminating burdocks. I leave them to grow until warm weather is fully set in, and the plants filled with sap. I prefer leaving the middle stalk set, but am careful to take them previous to budding. With a strong spade I cut the roots two or three inches under the surface, drawing the spade directly back without removing the earth, plucking the top part up with my hand, and stamping the earth firmly over the remaining part to prevent a free circulation of air; and few of them will sprout. Such as do, will be only a weak and sickly progeny, and a repeated application of the spade will prove a cheap and successful exterminator. S. N. H.

FIRE-BLIGHT.

The opinion that fire-blight in the pear tree is frequently if not usually caused by the influence of frost on the imperfectly ripened wood, is now very generally adopted, and some interesting cases in corroboration have occurred the present summer.

"We have had no frost so severe as this," observes D. Thomas, in the Ohio Cultivator, "and as late in the season, since the year 1817. It has given us a new chapter in the history of fire-blight." * * "It has produced ten times more fire-blight than I ever saw before. It was not confined to the pear tree, though that suffered most; but the apple tree and the quince tree share largely in the calamity; and even the cherry tree, which was not on the list of such as were susceptible of this malady, did not escape."

The new shoots of fruit trees, being young, fresh, and succulent, were peculiarly susceptible of injury by frost, which operated on them with as great facility as the frost of winter operates upon the young shoots which grow late in summer or in autumn, producing blight in the ordinary way. Most of these young spring shoots escaped; a portion were killed at once by the frost; and another portion, a large one, though not killed immediately, were so affected as to cause a diseased action in the sap, or a poisonous fermentation, which after a time resulted in the death of the branch or tree.

That the fire-blight thus resulting, was not the effect of the cold of *last winter*, was conclusively shown by the fact that no appearance of the disease was seen before the frost; but immediately after the frost, it was observed to be taking place all through the country; and from that period to the present time, which is near the latter part of summer, new cases have been continually taking place. A *Stevens* pear tree showed no indications of the disaster until operated on by the intense heat of the present mid-summer, and a young Bartlett was seen the present week to be suffering from the first stages of the malady, in one of its limbs. A Florence cherry tree died a few weeks only after the frost. In no case has the most rigid examination detected the slightest indication of the presence of an insect or of his ravages.

The great variation in appearance, and the irregular manner of attack, are worthy of notice. In some cases, the malady appeared to be simple death or cessation of growth, the leaves gradually withering, without that sudden change to a black color which shows the presence of poisonous sap in the branches, produced by freezing and partial decomposition. In other cases the latter symptoms were fully developed. Again, in some cases, single or small twigs only were destroyed on the tree; in others, large limbs or large portions of the bark were affected.

NOTICES OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

NEW WORK ON SHEEP.—"THE AMERICAN SHEPHERD," by L. A. MORRELL, Esq., of Lake Ridge, Tompkins county, N. Y., will soon be issued by Messrs. HARPERS. From our knowledge of Mr. MORRELL, and from having read a considerable portion of the work, we have no hesitation in saying it will possess a practical character which cannot fail to render it highly valuable to sheep-owners in all parts of the country. Previous to its going to press, the work was submitted to the examination of the Executive Board of the New-York State Agricultural Society, by whom it was recommended in the following language:—"The committee have great pleasure in recommending the work to the attention of wool growers and others interested in the breeding and management of sheep, as one containing a large amount of practical and scientific information on a most important branch of American agriculture." We are authorized to state that an opportunity will be presented at the coming State Fair at Utica, for procuring copies of Mr. MORRELL's book. It will be recollected that Mr. M. offered a premium for the best plan of a sheep-barn. He requests us to state that the first premium was awarded to M. Y. Tilden, of New Lebanon, Columbia co.; the se

cond to Richard Morgan, of Aurora, Cayuga co., and the third to Dr. Chapin, of Providence, R. I.

FOREIGN.

We have English papers to the 2d of August. The grain harvest will be late, owing to the want of sufficiently warm weather. Should the weather have proved favorable through the last month, a full average supply of wheat will be gathered in most parts of the kingdom. Barley is good, excepting its having been injured in some sections by lodging. Very large growths are expected of oats, beans, and peas. Hay is abundant.

The Exhibition of the Royal Agricultural Society at Shrewsbury took place from the 12th to the 18th of July. The show of stock was considered upon the whole highly satisfactory, and fully answering the purposes intended by the society.

At the auction sale which took place after the show, several Short Horn bulls sold at from 40 to 59 guineas each; and Hereford bulls at 40 to 50 guineas, and one for 99 guineas. South Down bucks sold for £11 to £15 each. Pigs, £7 each.

The exhibition of implements is said to have been far short of what has been seen at previous meetings of the society.

The society continues to increase in numbers and wealth. Its present list of members is nearly 9,000, and its funded property above £9,000.

PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

New-York, August 22, 1845.

COTTON.—But little has been done in the staple. At Savannah, sales were made of 100 bales, 6a7½ cts. At N. Orleans, 13 bales good new at 8 cts.

BUTTER.—Western, 12a15—Goshen, 16a20.

CHEESE.—6a6½.

FLOUR.—Genesee, from new wheat, \$4.62½—Ohio, \$4.43a\$4.50.

GRAIN.—Wheat, nothing doing—no new crop in market.

HEMP.—Dew rotted, per ton, \$63a\$70—water rotted, \$90a\$110

HOPS.—per lb. 13a14 cents.

HAMS.—scarce and firm at 7½a7½ cts.

BEEF.—Mess, \$9a\$9.75.

LARD.—5a8½.

PORK.—new mess \$13 87½—prime, \$10.75a\$10.87½.

TOBACCO.—Kentucky, per lb. 3 cents—Connecticut seed leaf, 2a10.

WOOL.—(Boston prices) Aug. 23:

Prime or Saxony fleeces, washed per lb.....	\$0.37a0.40
American full blood fleeces.....	35a0.37
“ three-fourths blood fleeces.....	33a0.35
“ half blood do.....	31a0.32
“ one-fourth blood and common,....	28a0.30

NOTICE.

THE undersigned is happy to give notice that the added improvements this season by the subscriber to the “Warren’s Improved Patent Horse Power and Thresher,” have secured increasing success and satisfaction to all, as was confidently anticipated. The public can now be fully satisfied that these machines are superior in all respects to any others for their low price.

Two Horse Power and Thresher together, only \$75.

These Machines are made and sold in this city only by the sole agent,
JAS. PLANT,
Successor to L. Postwick & Co., 5 Burling slip, N. Y. City.

SHORT HORN DURHAMS FOR SALE.

9 HEAD of this valuable breed of animals are now offered for sale by the subscriber, having more than he can well keep on his farm, viz: Rose, 9 years old, a good milker, having given 25 quarts per day, on pasture only. She is in calf by my prize bull Meteor, and will drop her calf about the middle of August. Empress, nearly as good a milker as Rose. She dropped her calf about a month ago, and will be bulled by Meteor. Eunice, 5 years old, white, bulled by my imported bull Duke of Wellington, 25th of June, a good milker; her dam has given 32 quarts of milk a day on pasture only. Julia, four-year-old heifer, recently bulled by Meteor. Lily, two-year-old heifer, white, bulled by Meteor, 9th of June, and three yearling heifers, roan, red, and white, got by Wellington and Meteor. A yearling bull, got by Meteor, out of a cow bred by Charles H. Hall, Esq., of Harlem. The Cows above named were bred by the Bullocks, of Albany county, and their descendants. This stock has the reputation of being good milkers. Gentlemen desirous of procuring the blood of the celebrated herd of Thomas Bates, Esq., of Yorkshire, can do so, with a cross of the Bullock stock, as the sires of the young animals are from that gentleman’s herd, and the cows are in calf by the same bulls. This strain of blood can hardly fail to make good milkers. Letters, post paid, will receive an answer. The animals will be sold from \$100 to \$125 a head. A credit from 6 to 12 months will be given for approved paper.
GEO. VAIL.
Troy, July 25, 1845—2t.

PORTABLE MILLS.

THE undersigned would again call attention to the Patent Portable Burr Stone Mills, for which he is sole agent in this city. Prices at retail, for 12, 15, 18, and 24 inch, \$35, \$55, \$85, \$100.

These are very useful for a dry season, and where horse or steam power may be used. One-third power is saved by their peculiar construction, while their extra speed causes very rapid grinding.

J. PLANT, 5 Burling slip, N. Y. City.

SALE OF DEVON CATTLE.

E. P. BECK will sell at public sale, on Wednesday, the 15th of October next, at his dwelling in Sheldon, Wyoming Co., N. Y., a large portion of his valuable stock of pure Devon cattle, consisting of calves, yearlings, &c., steers, heifers, cows and bulls, of various ages. One year’s credit will be given on approved credit to all who wish it.

Sheldon, August 20th, 1845.

SANDFORD’S PATENT STRAW AND HAY CUT-TER.

THE subscriber is made sole agent in this city for the sale of this most valuable machine. It is deemed superior to any others heretofore offered to the public. Its construction is such as to cut very rapidly and fine, and the knives are easily kept in order. Retail price, only \$15.

J. PLANT, 5 Burling-slip, N. Y. city.

G. W. RYCKMAN,

INSPECTOR OF HOPS, No. 50 Water-street, between Old and Counties-slip, New-York.—The subscriber has completed a regular correspondence in England, Germany, France, and throughout this country, in relation to the growth, and quantity of Hops raised, and the probable demand and prices for AMERICAN HOPS both at home and in Europe. His sources of correct information are not surpassed by any other individual engaged in the business, and from his many years experience, he knows that he will be enabled to give the most entire satisfaction. He gives his personal attention to the sale of all Hops consigned to him.

Advances made on all produce consigned to him for sale.

New-York, Aug. 20, 1845.—It.

FRUIT TREES.

THE subscribers are now ready to receive orders for superior Fruit Trees, viz: APPLES, PLUMS, PEARS, CHERRIES, PEACHES, Quinces, &c., &c., from their new and extensive nursery. Their assortment, which they offer for sale the coming fall, is very large and fine. The trees are handsome, thrifty, and of the most suitable size and age for transplanting, and being propagated by the proprietors themselves with the most scrupulous care, either from bearing trees in their own grounds, or from others of undoubted genuineness, and being in every other respect until they are sent from the nursery, under their immediate personal supervision, they can be confidently recommended.

It is expected that all orders coming from persons unknown to the proprietors, will be accompanied by a remittance, or that some responsible reference will be given. Orders are entered on the order book, to be forwarded as soon as practicable in the fall. Orders respectfully solicited, and will receive prompt attention.

WILSON, THORBURN & TELLER, or

WM. THORBURN, Seedsman, 38 Broadway,

Albany, Sept. 1—3t.

A liberal discount made to those who purchase to sell again, or by wholesale.

NEW AND IMPROVED POUDRETTE,

MADE by the Lodi Manufacturing Co., may be had by application at the office of the Company, No. 51 Liberty-street, New-York, or by addressing a letter (post paid) with directions how to ship, &c., to “The Lodi Manufacturing Co., New-York.” The price for it, delivered anywhere in New-York city, free of cartage, &c., is as follows: For one barrel, \$2.00; for two bbls., \$3.50; for three barrels, \$5.00; four barrels, \$6.00; five barrels, \$8.00; six barrels, \$9.75; and for any quantity over six barrels, \$1.50 per barrel. Pamphlets and instructions for its use, may be obtained gratis at our office.

The Lodi Manufacturing Co., defy competition in the art of making a cheap, powerful, and lasting manure, and strenuously invite a fair trial between an equal cost of the powder, and an equal cost of the best guano in existence.

It is hoped that the successful trial of powder upon wheat, on Long Island, the last season, will encourage many others in other parts of the country, to make a trial of its effects this season. Quantity per acre for wheat is 10 barrels, or 40 bushels, sown broadcast with the seed, and harrowed in.

Sept. 1—2t.

SOMETHING NEW—IMPORTANT TO SMALL FARMERS.

THE undersigned has completed a Threshing Machine for hand power, one of which may be seen at his ware-rooms. It is ascertained that a man and boy can readily thresh 5 bushels per hour clean, and the straw be saved so as to be bundled and fitted for market.

More than one quality will probably be made, and the prices vary from \$25 to \$50 each. Fixed prices will be established hereafter. All orders (post paid) will be now attended to, and cash orders promptly supplied.

J. PLANT,

5 Burling slip, N. Y. City.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINES, &c.

NOW in store for sale, Best Premium Fanning Mills, Straw Cutters, Portable Stone Mills, Plows, &c. &c. Orders will be attended to promptly by J. PLANT, 5 Burling-slip, N. Y. city.

FAN MILL AND CRADLE MANUFACTORY.

THE subscribers continue to manufacture Fan Mills and Grain Cradles of the very best quality. The subscribers have recently improved their Fan Mills, so that wheat and all other kinds of grain and seeds are thoroughly cleaned by being run through the mill once. Said improvement has been secured by letters patent, bearing date the 10th day of July, 1845.

Notwithstanding the labor and expense which we have bestowed upon the improvement of our Fan-Mills, we are enabled to furnish the "Patent Fan-Mills" at the same prices which we have received for mills heretofore manufactured by us.

We manufacture four different sizes of Fan-Mills, seven sieves to each mill. Prices from \$21 to \$27, according to size.

Orders from abroad promptly filled, and a liberal discount to dealers.

I. T. GRANT,
D. H. VIALI.

Schaghticoke, Junction P. O., Rensselaer Co., N. Y.

We the subscribers certify that we have witnessed the operation of I. T. Grant & Co.'s "Patent Fan-Mill," upon wheat and all kinds of grain and seeds, and have no hesitation in pronouncing it superior to any mill now in use. The operation of cleaning wheat is performed with one-half the time and labor required by other mills, as it chaffs and screens at the same time. All kinds of grain and seeds are thoroughly cleaned by being run through the mill once. We cheerfully recommend, and advise all farmers who wish to purchase a fan-mill, to purchase the "Patent Fan-Mill" manufactured by I. T. Grant & Co.

John M. Mott,	H. K. Duer,
L. D. Eddy,	John Case,
Cha's J. Wilber,	Henry P. Stuntz,
James H. Rice,	Philip H. Stuntz,
Moses Buckley,	Edwin Smith,
P. G. William,	James G. Gordon,
Calvin Morse,	George W. Corry,
James H. Jones,	Francis Crocker,
Wm. B. Gordon.	

I know little of the utility of the fan-mill above described except from information. I am, however, personally acquainted with almost every one of the above subscribers, and have no hesitation in saying that the most implicit confidence may be reposed in all they certify. JOB PIERSON.

I am intimately acquainted with the Hon. Job Pierson, who has signed the above certificate. He is a highly respectable man, (formerly member of Congress,) and I have great confidence in him. W. L. MARCY.

For sale at WARREN'S, in Troy, WM. THORBURN'S, Albany, and D. L. CLAWSON'S, 192 Water-street, New-York.

WILLIAM HOVEY'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.

THE subscriber having made some important improvements in his tools and machinery for building his celebrated Straw Cutter, is now able to offer them at the following reduced prices:—

No. 1, \$10, former price \$12.
No. 2, \$12, " " \$15.
No. 3, \$15, " " \$20.
No. 4, \$20, " " \$25.
No. 5, \$25, " " \$30.
No. 6, \$30, " " \$35.

A liberal discount will be made to dealers. The great advantage that these machines have over all other Cylinder Cutters, consists principally in the ease and facility with which the knives can be adjusted, for which he holds letters patent. Any one knife may be taken off and ground without taking off the whole number; and should any one knife become narrow by grinding, the edge can be set out by set screws, so as to come in equal contact with the hide roller, without the necessity of grinding all the other knives down to the same width. The wings to which the knives are fastened are of vast importance, as they serve to strengthen and support the knives, and prevent them bending while cutting cornstalks or other coarse fodder.

Machines will probably be offered by others in the market, made to resemble these Cutters, but entirely without the above named improvements. The knives are fastened on a cylinder without wings to support them, and are confined by rings on each end. No one knife can be taken off without the whole number—and in case of inequality in the width of knives, the machinery becomes useless unless they are all ground equal, as there are no means of setting out the edges to make them cylindrical, and it will be extremely difficult to grind them so perfect that they will all come with equal contact on the roller on which they are designed to cut. Should such an imperfect article be wanted on account of cheapness, the subscriber will furnish a better one at a cheaper rate.

CAUTION.—Any person who shall make, use, or sell to others to be used, any of the above improved Cutters, will be held accountable for the infringement of the above named patent.

Worcester, Mass., August, 1845. WILLIAM HOVEY.
N. B. Ruggles, Nourse & Mason, having ceased to act as my agents, a full assortment will be kept for sale at the Farm Implement and Seed Warehouse of D. PROUTY & CO., Nos. 19, 20, and 22 North Market-street, and 19 Clinton-street, Boston. They are also for sale in Albany. Inquire at the Cultivator office.

Sept. 1—31.

FARM FOR SALE.

THE subscriber offers for sale the farm upon which he now resides, situate in the village of Auburn, in the county of Cayuga, and containing 100½ acres.

This farm lies upon the south side of the western turnpike, (now Genesee-st., Auburn,) and is well known as having been the residence of Hon. Nathaniel Garrow, deceased, for many years.

The buildings, fences and other erections thereon, are ample and in good repair; the soil will vie with that of any other farm in Western New-York, for fertility, variety and earliness of vegetation. Great attention has been paid as well by the former as also by the present owner, to the selection and cultivation of choice fruit, and there is now upon the farm, in full bearing, a great abundance of the best varieties of apples, pears, cherries, peaches, grapes, &c. &c. The farm is well watered, durable springs, which give a never failing and ample supply.

The location is believed to be as desirable as that of any other arm in the state, as well for farming purposes as also for the residence of the gentleman or a man of business, being within a few minutes walk from the Rail Road Depot, and within a few rods of the Female Seminary.

A credit will be given, if desired, for a large portion of the purchase money, for a term of years upon payment of interest annually. Inquiries may be made of the subscriber upon the premises, of LUTHER TUCKER, Esq., Editor Cultivator, Albany, or of DAVID WRIGHT, Esq., Auburn.

JOHN REMER.

Auburn, N. Y., July 14, 1845.—31.

A LAKE FARM FOR SALE.

THE subscriber offers for sale the Farm owned by Hon. JEDEDIAH MORGAN at the time of his death, situate on the east side of, and adjoining, the Cayuga Lake, about two miles south of the village of Aurora, in the town of Ledyard, (formerly Scipio,) containing about 360 acres, with a good porportion of Timber Land, on which he oak and hickory predominate. The road leading from Auburn, to Ithaca, via Aurora, passes through the Farm, dividing it into two nearly equal parts.

The land is of an excellent quality, as well for wheat and other grain as also for grass.

The situation and location is believed to be as eligible, and to combine as many advantages, as any other farm in the county. The first point of land which makes into the Cayuga Lake, above the village of Aurora, is a part of the farm.

A large proportion of the purchase money can remain, secured by bond and mortgage, upon annual interest. Any person wishing to view the farm, can do so by applying to C. C. WHITE, the tenant upon the premises. The whole will be sold together, or in parcels, to suit purchasers. Letters of inquiry addressed to the subscriber, *post paid*, will be promptly answered.

DAVID WRIGHT,

Trustee of the Estate of Jed'h Morgan, dec'd

Auburn, July 14, 1845.—August 1—31.

FARM FOR SALE.

IT consists of two lots, situated on opposite sides of the Albany and Schenectady turnpike, four miles from Albany. The lot on the north of the road, comprises forty, and that on the south, sixty acres. Both are enclosed by a good fence of boards with chestnut posts, erected a little more than a year ago. The lot on the south side has a small house, a stable with shed, and a good yard for manure, or stock. It is also provided with a well of excellent water. There are permanent streams of water on both lots. The stream called the Patroon's brook runs across the whole width of the south lot. With the exception of about a third of an acre on the north lot, both have been entirely cleared, drained where necessary, thoroughly plowed, seeded last year with clover and grasses, and will yield this season nearly or quite an average of two tons of hay to the acre. The two lots are suitable either for one farm or two farms, but will be sold together or separately, to suit purchasers. The natural position, as well as the soil of both lots is good, and cannot fail to give satisfaction. Every thing considered, a more desirable situation could scarcely be found in this vicinity.

For particulars, inquire at this office, or of JOHN MCCARDELL, corner of Nassau and Pine-streets, New-York. July 1—31.

LINNEAN BOTANIC GARDEN AND NURSERY,

Late Prince's, Flushing, L. I., near New-York.

THE new proprietors of this ancient and celebrated NURSERY, late of WILLIAM PRINCE deceased, and exclusively designated by the above title for nearly fifty years, offer for sale, at reduced prices, a more extensive variety of FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES, SHRUBS, VINES, PLANTS, &c., than can be found in any Nursery in the United States, and the genuineness of which may be depended upon; and they will unflinchingly endeavor to merit the CONFIDENCE and PATRONAGE of the Public, by INTEGRITY and LIBERALITY in dealing, and MODERATION in charges.

Descriptive Catalogues, with directions for planting and culture, furnished gratis on application to the New Proprietors, by mail, *post-paid*, and Orders promptly executed.

Flushing, L. I., August 1, 1845.—21*

WINTER & Co.,
Proprietors.

SEED STORE AND AGRICULTURAL WARE-HOUSE.

OUR Spring supply of seeds is now ready, and we shall be happy to receive orders for Field or Garden Seeds, of every description, Black Sea, Italian and Siberian Spring Wheat, Barley, Peas, Clover Seed, Timothy Seed, Seed Corn, Shaker and other Garden seeds, &c. Also, a full assortment of farming tools selected from the best manufacturers in the country. Hoes, Scythes, Forks, &c. cheap by the dozen.

E. COM TOWN.

Rome, Oneida county, March 1, 1845.

CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Mr. NORTON's Letters, No. XV.,	265
Notes of Travel in Ireland—Rural and Agricultural, by F. I. F.,	266
Letters from Mr. HORSFORD, No. VII.,	267
Mr. MITCHELL's Letters, No. IX.,	268
A word or two about Bee-Hives, by B. WHITE,	269
Southern Agriculture, by J. W. G.—Cure for Scours in Sheep,	270
by R. RURRITT,	
Notes of Travel in the Southwest, by SOLON ROBINSON	271
Transactions of the N. Y. State Ag. Society, by SENEX,	273
Notes of a Botanical Tour, by S. B. BUCKLEY,	275
Transmutation, by S. WIDNEY—The Cultivator, a Farmer's	274
Library, by H.,	
Grant's Fan-Mill, by W. BROOKFEN—Ornamental Gate, by	276
A SUBSCRIBER—Improvement of Horses, by Geo. BLES-	
SING,	
Foot Rot in Sheep, by GRAZIER,	277
A Letter to Farmers, by A FARMER'S WIFE—Cure for the	278
Barber's Itch, by G. G. S.—Filberts, by W. JENNISON,	
Culture of the Strawberry, by N. LONGWORTH,	279
Inquiries from various sources,	291
Condensed Correspondence,	292

EDITORIAL.

To Correspondents and Monthly Notices,	280
N. Y. State Cattle Show—List of Judges,	281
Splendid Sample of Wheat,	282
Connecticut Cheese Dairies,	283
The Dolphin or Maryland Plow—Garget in Cows,	284
The Sheep Bot,	285
Hints for the Season—Influences of Electricity on Vegetation,	286
English Agricultural College—State of the Crops,	287
Improved Stock of James Lenox, Esq.,	288
Crowell's Improved Churn—Aurora Hort. Society—Farm of	289
Jas. Gowen, Esq.,	
Fair of the American Institute—Depth of planting Grain,	290
Answers to Inquiries,	291
Condensed Correspondence,	292
Fire Blight—New Work on Sheep,	293

ILLUSTRATIONS.

Figs. 80, 81—Bee-Hives,	269
Fig. 82—Grant's Fanning Mill,	276
Fig. 83—Ornamental Gate,	276
Fig. 84—Maryland Self-sharpening Plow,	284
Fig. 85—The Sheep Bot,	285
Fig. 86—Short Horn Bull, "King Charles 2d,"	288
Fig. 87—Crowell's Thermometer Churn,	289

ADVERTISEMENTS inserted in the Cultivator, at \$1.00 per 100 words for each insertion.

AYRSHIRES.

FOR sale an imported Ayrshire Bull, two imported Ayrshire Cows, and four young Bulls, from 2 years to six months old. The above are offered for sale to close an estate, and are of unquestioned excellence, as will be ascertained on application (post paid) to MARK H. NEWMAN, 199 Broadway, New-York.

Sept. 1—1t.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS.

J. M. THORBURN & Co., 15 John-street, New-York, and Astoria, (I. L.) beg to inform the horticultural public that they have now ready for delivery, 5000 *Myatt's Eliza* Strawberry plants, which they have proved by putting in beds for two seasons past, and can with confidence recommend this excellent strawberry to the most limited grower. In England, where it originated, it maintains to this day its celebrity, and in Covent Garden Market, London, yields to no other sort but the British Queen, which the *Eliza* is the parent of. It is of fine flavor, and cockscomb form, bright red color, and erect habit. Price for strong rooted plants in pots, 75 cents per dozen; out of pots, from the bed, \$3.00 per hundred. Also, *Myatt's British Queen*, unrivalled for every excellent property, has fruited splendidly in a large bed the present season, and is indispensable to the smallest cultivator. No new sort in England yet equals it for general good properties, nor in this country approaches it. Strong rooted plants, in pots, \$1.00 per dozen; and from the bed, strong plants, \$5.00 per hundred. *Prince Albert*, very large and fine, great bearer, fine shape, and beautiful color. \$1.00 per dozen; 5.00 per hundred. It is one of the best sorts for forcing in pots. Also *Hovey's Seedling*, a well known good sort—\$1.50 per hundred, \$5.00 per thousand. *Ross Phanix*, one of the best American varieties, well known around Hudson and Albany, as a fine productive kind; \$1.50 per hundred, \$5.00 per thousand. *Scotch Pine Apple*, a very bright oblong fruit, of a sprightly pine apple flavor; \$1.50 per hundred—\$5.00 per thousand.

The above are quoted at prices which will encourage any one to plant a good sized bed at once. They will produce moderately next spring and abundantly hereafter. Strawberries to bear fruit in perfection, should be kept clear of runners, which can be used for forming new beds. A covering of three inches of stable manure, in winter, is very serviceable, which *fork in* early in the spring. Keep clear of weeds, and a good crop will follow—place the plants eighteen inches apart in the rows, and an alley of two feet between the rows.

Orders will meet prompt despatch and careful packing and forwarding.

Sept. 1—1t.

NEW-YORK AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE.

HAVING taken the commodious store, No. 187 Water street, the subscriber is now opening the largest and most complete assortment of Agricultural implements, of all kinds, ever yet offered in this market. Most of these are of very highly improved pattern—warranted to be made of the best materials—put together in the strongest manner, of a very superior finish, and offered at the lowest cash prices.

SEEDS FOR THE FARMER.

Such as improved Winter and Spring Wheat, Rye, Barley, Oats, Corn, Ruta Baga, Turnep, Cabbage, Beet, Carrot, Parsnep, Clover, and Grass seeds, improved varieties of Potatoes, &c., &c.

FERTILIZERS.

Peruvian and African Guano, Poudrette, Bonedust, Lime, Plaster of Paris, &c.

FRUIT, AND ORNAMENTAL TREES AND SHRUBS

Orders taken for these, and executed from a choice of the best nurseries, gardens, and conservatories in the United States.

HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, SWINE, AND POULTRY.

Orders executed for stock of all kinds to the best advantage.

WIRE CLOTHS AND SIEVES.

Different kinds and sizes of these constantly on hand.

The subscriber requests samples sent to him of any new or improved implements, seeds, &c. &c., which if found valuable, extra pains will be taken to bring them before the public.

A. B. ALLEN, 187 Water-st., New-York.

Sept. 1—2t.

STODDARD'S STRAWBERRY.

PERSONS wishing to obtain the Seedling Strawberry noticed in the Cultivator for August last, p. 251, can obtain them by addressing Col. J. S. STODDARD, Palmyra, Wayne Co., N. Y. Price, \$5 per 50 plants. They can be sent by Express to any part of the country.

PREMIUM STRAWBERRIES, &c.

WM. R. PRINCE & Co., Flushing, will supply the following varieties of Strawberries, which are superior to any others: Early Garnstone, Prince Albert, Large Early Scarlet, Crimson Cone, Victoria, Bishop's Wick, Myatt's British Queen, Elton, Prolific Hawthoos, Southborough, Coul late Scarlet, Swainstone's Scarlet, Prince's Conqueror, Old Pine, Ross Phanix, Keene's Seedling, Hovey's Seedling, Black Roseberry, Deptford Pine, Boston Pine, Alice Maud. Also the following second rate: Myatt's Eliza and Pine, English White and Redwood, and Alpine varieties, and numerous others, including every valuable variety known. Orders not less than \$5 or \$10, enclosing cash, will meet prompt attention. Catalogues of all trees, plants, &c., will be sent every post paid applicant.

WM. R. PRINCE & CO

Prince's Linnæan Garden and Nurseries, Sept 1.

MACEDON NURSERY.

THE partnership formerly existing between Thomas & Smith, having been dissolved, orders for fruit trees will be received by J. J. THOMAS, Macedon, Wayne Co., N. Y.

A thorough revision of his list of fruits having taken place, and new ground extensively occupied, trees of many varieties can be furnished of only small size before another year.

COMMERCIAL GARDEN AND NURSERY

OF

PARSONS & CO., Flushing, near New-York.

THE proprietors desire to call attention to this extensive establishment which is now probably the largest in the Union, covering an area of over forty acres, and compactly planted with more than 600,000 Trees, Shrubs, Plants, &c.

The very rapidly increasing taste for Horticultural pursuits, producing a demand for new and rare Fruits, Ornamental Trees, and Plants, has rendered necessary a systematized arrangement for the importation of all that is new and desirable.

For this purpose, the proprietors have personally inspected all the principal public and private Horticultural establishments in Britain, France, and Germany, and have perfected arrangements, by which they will receive immediately on its appearance, every thing that is new and valuable.

The trees cultivated at this establishment are straight and thrifty, and from their exposed situation, they are sufficiently hardy for removal to much higher latitudes.

The attention of amateurs and others is particularly directed to the fruit grounds of this establishment, in which will be found bearing specimens of all the varieties of fruit which they cultivate.

Visitors are also invited to inspect their vineries and fruit-houses in which are more than 100 varieties of foreign Grapes, and about 200 varieties of Pears, Plums, Apricots, and Nectarines, all of which will be in bearing in 1846.

Orders may be addressed to the Proprietors at Flushing, New-York, and Catalogues can be obtained by application, post paid, to themselves, or to Parsons & Lawrence, 129 Pearl st., or Saxton & Miles, 205 Broadway, New-York.

VIRGINIA FARMS FOR SALE.

I HAVE for sale several good farms, being portions of the estate called Oak Hill, in Loudon county, Virginia, late the residence of President Monroe. It is about 30 miles from Washington, Alexandria and Georgetown—in a most healthy region, well watered and peculiarly calculated for raising stock of all kinds. To industrious and enterprising applicants, very liberal terms of payment will be given.

S. L. GOUVERNEUR.

Washington, July 1, 1845—July 1—5t.